

# Coffee-House JESTS.

By the Author of the  
OXFORD-JESTS.

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This may be printed.

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Roger L'Estrange.

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L O N D O N ,

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the Poultry near Cheapside.

M D C L X X V I I .





# Coffee-House JESTS.

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## I.

**A** Doctor of Divinity in *Oliver's* dayes that had been sufficiently persecuted and plundered for his Loyalty to his Prince ; which made him and many others ( that held his Tenents) to talk at random sometimes when they had noth'ng to lose ; but this talking of his happened to be a benefit to him : for divers did acquaint *Oliver*, that he was often heard to say ; that he did heartily wish that *Oliver* and all his Army were in Hell : upon which *Oliver* sent him a Summons to appear before him ; and be-

ing come ; Why how now Doctor, says he, I did never expect to hear such Language to have proceeded from a man of your Coat ; why Sir , says the Doctor, what did I say , why says Oliver, I heard that you should wish, that both my self and all my Army were in Hell : Is that all, says the Doctor , why truly Sir you need not endeavour to procure any testimony to make this manifest ; for I do confess that I have said so a hundred times, and do wish the same still , and I think I have done exceedingly well in so wishing ; and my reasons are these : For if you and your Army have conquered three such Kingdoms as these ; if you were all in Hell, I think it were impossible for that one Kingdom to withstand you , and that being conquered would it not be a great blessing to us all : which conceit not only procured his pardon but a restitution of his parsonage also, and likewise a gratuity ; which made him as loyal to him as he was before.

## 2.

A Scottish Minister being Chaplain to an English Regiment of Foot , in the time of the Rump Parliament at St. Edmonds Bury in Suffolk; and there as he was

was preaching to them, said, Good Lord bless the grand Council above (viz. the Parliament) and grant they may all hang together: which a Country fellow that stood underneath hearing, said, Yes sir with all my heart, and the sooner the better; and I am sure 'tis the prayers of all good people. But good friends, says the Parson, I do not mean as that naughtey man means; but I pray that they may all hang together in Accord and Concord: Yes, says the fellow again, In any Cord so it be a strong Cord: And when he had so said, he slipt away from the company; at last being searcht for by the chief Officer there, they could not find him: How, says he, is he slipt away; if he had not he should have had the slip bestowed upon him, for his unreverent language to the Parliament.

## 3

A great Cavalier in the time of the War betwixt the King and Parliament, was taken Prisoner in the County of Cheshire by some of the Parliament Forces; and in regard that this Gentleman was a Collonel, and had been very active in the Kings Service; he was adjudged by the said Parliament aforesaid, not only to Prison in Nantwich; but there to be

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be put in a dark Dungeon, with nothing but Straw to lie on; which he patiently endured for two days: but on Saturday night, he told the Taylor, *Tbat he de  
ſired that he might hav: liberty to go to Church on the morrow to hear their preaching; perhaps*, says he, *I may be of your Opinion then:* which Sir William granted; and as the preacher was praising God for all their great Victories, he pray'd God that he would be a Centinel also, over that only Town of Nantwich, that had been so faithful to the Parliament; with that the Collonel started up, saying, *Pray Sir must be be a Muscatier or a Pikeman*: upon which he was conveyed to his aforesaid lodging agen.

### 4.

In a Village in *Norfolk* where the Church stands upon a high Stony-hill; the Lady there and her family, when they went to Church, did use to load the Fool with all their Cloaks and Save-guards, for fear it should rain by the way; and always gave him a stick between his Leggs, telling him he should ride up, for 'twas a Horse; which he often did with confidence and satisfaction to himself: but being one time come

to

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to the top of the hill , and being much loaded with the aforesaid things , he began to puff and blow extreamly , saying , D'ye call this a Horse , I am sure but for the name of a Horse , I had as good a gone a foot all the way .

5.

A Cobler was sitting in his shop a sing-ing merrily , his song was this ; Tamber-lain was and he was , and Tamberlain was and he was ; and continued so singing , and nothing else , many times together ; which a Gentleman that past by took no-tice of , and said to the Cobler , Prithee friend , says the Gentleman , what was he ? why , says the Cobler , as arrant a fool as your self , for oughn I know : Sirrah , says the Gentleman , you are a rascal , come out and I'll kick you ; no sir , says he , 'tis no matter , I thank you for your love as much as if I had it , for I don't want kick-ing : Sirrah , says the Gentleman again . Come out and I'll give you a kick ; No sir , says he , You need not trouble your self I won't come if you'd give me two .

6.

A School-master did always dictate to his Scholars , H non est Litera , that is H is no Letter ; and on a time he call'd

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one

one of the Scholars to him, and bid him beat the Cawdle, and when he askt for it, the Scholar told him, that he had done with the Cawdle as he bid him, What's that, says his Master, why Sir, says he, I did eat it : Sirrah, fays he, I bid you beat it with an H: Yes Sir, says he, But I did eat it with Bread.

## 7.

A Gentleman desired of a covetous Neighbour of his to lend him Ten pounds, he professed he had none to spare, but the Gentleman having at that time very great occasion, told him he had a Gelding that he had been offered twelve pounds for, but for the present he would take ten : Well Sir, says the Miser, I'll go and try a friend (which you may be sure was his Chest) and fetch the money presently : which when the Gentleman had received, and the Horse delivered, he said, Now I find that Horses have more credit than Men, and so God-a-mercy Horse.

## 8.

Two Fellows going with a present to a covetous Man, one of them said they should but lose their labour; well says t'other, I'll hold you a Crown that we shall

shall get there both Meat , Drink and Money ; Done, says t'other : and being come thither , one of them told him that he was very dry , then he bid them go down into the Celler; and when they came there, he told the Butler , that he could not drink without eating ; then the Butler went up and told his Master of it , who bid him set a cold Pasty before them ; of which they eat plentifully: and when they had fill'd their Bellies , they both went to the Master to take their leaves of him ( also expecting some gratuity ) which when they saw not appearing , says one of them boldly , *Pray Sir what shall we say to my Master if he should ask us what you gave us :* which put him to a stand for a while , at last he gave them half a Crown : so the fellow won his wager of the other man.

## 9.

A Cavalier in Oxford-shire , that was very zealous in his loyalty for his Prince , and had suffered very much for it ; and once meeting with some of the Rumpish Officers at Oxford , says one of them to him , *God save you Noble Squire , and you ,* says he , *if it be possible :* for he did believe that all that were against the King could not be saved .

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10. Some

10.

Some Women were making merry together at a Gossipping at Limus near Ratcliff, and the God-father was there among them; but one of the Women that was an arch Jade, said to him, *Sir I have something to say to you, well, says he, say on: Don't you know, says she, Ratcliff Market, yes, says he, very well: Why, says she, if you will meet me there too tomorrow morning with a Tu — in your mouth, I'll give you a pint of Sack: but, says he, I must drink it to wash my mouth, and if I do not do it, then you shall have the Sack again at second hand: Well, says she, I see that you would cast your kindness upon me, if I'd accept on't: Well, says she. If I do not meet you there, yet I'll come hither and tell you that I can't come.*

11.

There were two Modest and Civil Whetstones-park Women that were scolding most comfortably in the street together, and amongst their virtuous discourse (of which there was great store) to the great satisfaction of all the neighbourhood, that their Daughters might learn the better how to behave themselves: One call'd the other Whore:

Faith,

Faith, says she , and thou wouldest fain be a Whore to , but that thou art so ugly that no body will lie with thee : What you Whore, says she, I can have one for a Groat a night and thank ye too.

## I 2.

A Gentleman was riding through a Forrest in Oxford Shire, where two supposed Cripples begg'd something of him, then he put his hand in his pocket, and bid them give him a Groat and he would give them Six Pence , which they did ; and when he had the Groat , he rod away with it: with that one of them swore a great Oath , saying, Cut thy Girth Tom, cut thy Girth , you Rogue, and let us after him : And though he gollopt a good pace away , yet they were so nimble ( and so by consequence Cripples ) that they overtook him as he was opening a Gate, and had almost laid hold on him ; that the Gentleman, for his security was forc'd to throw two or three Shillings down on the ground , and whilst they were scrabbling for that he got away.

## I 3.

A Gentleman and a peevish Parson were riding together ( in an extream rainy day ) in the Forrest of Sherwood in

In Nottingham Shire ; so that there was no House within four or five mile of the place ; that they were soundly soust with the Rain ; which made the Parson fret and vex extreamly. : . Come chear up , says the Gentleman to him , For if it does not hold up quickly , we'll e'ne do as they do in Spain , Well , says the Parson , whats that : Why , says t'other , e'ne let it rain on : which put the Parson in a greater chafe than before . And as they gallopt along by a poor Begger-man's Hutt , which was in the middle of the Forrest , and just in the high way ; and being almost a quarter of a mile gallopt beyond it , the old man hearing some Horses gallop by , comes out and crys , *L'ye hear, d'ye hear, d'ye hear Gentlemen* ; which made them think that he would tell them something to avoid robbing , and so presently gallopt back again to the Hutt . Then says the Begger to them , *Fray Gentlemen bestow a penny upon a poor Old Man* : which put the Parson into such a fury that he would have beat the Egger , and had so done but for the Gentleman ; who was so pleased with the humour of the Old Man , and the conceit also , and to see the Parson in such

such a fume ; that he threw him Six-pence : so they both rod away for Tuxford as fast as they could ; and when they came there , they had never a wee thred dry about them : *probatum est.*

14.

A Common-Wealth in *Italy*, being in great distress, and being ingaged to assist the Dutchesse of *Millan* by Oath and Articles, when t'was demanded, against its enemies ; one of the Republique Graidees stood up : Saying, *My Lords, Senators and Gentlemen*, you know we have all sworn not to receive aid from any Prince ; then we have sworn not to serve in the Wars of any Prince ; then we were all ingaged upon Oath to assist Millan : and now we are to swear again ; but my advice is, to avoid perjury, *Let us now take Oath never to perform any think that we do swear.*

15.

A Confident and Impudent Fellow had the faculty of enveighing against all Persons of his acquaintance , but only one ; which made another ask him, why he did not enveigh against him also ; *No*, says he , *by no means* ; for he has the property of a Tennis-Ball , that will rebound back again and retort ; for you know as well

as

as I , that Crows de not sit upon Dogs Backs , but upon the Sheeps : so that if a Man will make himself a Sheep , the Crows will crow over him , and will pull the Wooll off his Back to .

## 16.

A Fellow that had never a Nose , a roguish begger begg'd of him an Alms , and still as he begg'd , he prayed for his eye-sight ; he askt him what he meant by that , he told him that he hoped his eye-sight would never fail ; For if it does , says he , you are in a most miserable condition ; for there was no place to fix a pair of Spectacles on .

## 17.

Another meeting him by chance without a Nose , askt him by way of jeer , what that was upon his Nose ; he said a Worm : Alas poor Worm ; says he , I see he is feign to go about now the bridge is broken down .

## 18.

An Apothecary in Oxford spoke to a Countreyman , by way of jeer , to bring him some live Rats , and he would give him Eighteen pence a piece for them : and a fortnight after he brought them , and then the Apothecary told him that

he was provided the day before : the Courtney Fellow seeing he was abused , was resolved to be quit with him : saying, *I am unwilling (seeing I have wrought them) to carry them back again,* and told him he would take three pence out in Physick at some time or other ; and so opened his bag and let them about the Shop ; which did so whisk up and down the Shelves , that in a little space he broke him about 40 Pots and Glasses , and could never be rid of them since.  
*Probatum est.*

## 19.

A Lady in *Covent Garden* , that had a Daughter about four years of age, and being below a pretty space , her Mother call'd for her up , and askt her where she had been all that while ; she told her that she had been to see her Brother learn to dance , and that he was taught by a Monkey ; alluding to the great deformity that was in the Dancing-master : and the same Girl told her Mother on a Week day that she thought it was Sunday ; because the Sun then did shine so bright, which had been clouded so long before.

20.

One told him that had never a Nose, that though his Complices were fled that joyned with him in the plot against the state; that he should be made a Sacrifice of all the rest: *Nay, says he, then I don't fear, for the Old Laws says that nothing must be sacrificed that had a blemish.*

21.

A Gentleman, was forc'd for his loyalty to betake himself to the Sea for his security and relief, during the time of the Grand Rebellion; and was there so long that he became an expert Seaman, insomuch that when he came back (which was about the time of His Majesties most happy Restauration) he was askt by a *Fanatick Parson* whether he could say his Compasse or not: *Yes, says he, that I can, and I'll lay a wager with you also, that I can say my Compasse better than you can say the Lords Prayer:* (which he poor heart had discontinued for many years before) and the Sea Captain was the Judge to determine who said best; so the Gentleman said over his Compasse, and the Parson the Lords Prayer; but the Captain could not judge  
who

who said best : then the Gentleman began to say his Compasse backwards , which he did very well ; but the Parson could not say the Lords Prayer backwards ; so that the Gentleman won the wager : who also told him , That it was no wonder that he could not say it backwards , because for many years together he never saw him forwards to say it at all .

## 22.

A Conceited Fellow that was a Ribbon Weaver , who do commonly vend their Ribbon at the Exchange : This Man came on a time to the Old Exchange to sell some Ribbon there , but they all refused it (but whether they lik'd it or not , or had no need , I know not ) so that he walk'd up and down the Exchange fretting and vexing ; and as he walk'd , by chance let a great piece of Ribbon fall down on the ground , and so dragg'd after him as he went ; that some of the Shopkeepers told him of it , and bid him take it up : What a pox , says he , you'll neither buy my Ribbon , nor you wont give me leave to lose it : Nay , says one of them , 'tis loose already , for it drawles after you .

## 23. A

24.

A Man was condemned the last Sessions to be hang'd for a Robbery , but before and after he was condemned , his careful, dear, and loving Wife, bid him take no care , for she had took that care that he should not die ; which made the man live more dissolutely than he would have done , but for his Wives confidence ; which confidence she continued to him , till the night before he was to be hanged ; and then she came to him , and told him , that all the great promises made to her were come to nothing ; for she could not procure him a pardon by any means whatsoever ; which put the poor man into such a grief and trembling , that he was scarce himself : *Come Husband , says she , take heart , for though I cannot get you a pardon , yet I'll tell you what I will do for you : I will make you an excellent Camble to night , which will make you sleep well , and another too morrow morning to comfort up your heart before you are hang'd : for truly I believe it troubles you as well as me , that I could not get your pardon ; therefore pass it by this once ; but if ever you come to be hang'd again , I'll warrant you I'll get you your pardon.*

25. A

25.

A Fellow was accused before a Justice for calling of a Woman Whore ; the Justice askt him why he did so ? he told him because he had lain with her above a hundred times : O I pray Sir , says she , don't believe him ; for he never lay with me but three times in his life , and then he promised to give me half a Crown a time , but I'll assure you Sir , I never received one penny of him : And why did you not ask him for it , says the Justice , Indeed Sir , says she , I did often call upon him for it ; nay I call'd him Rogue too because he would not pay me : why then , says the Justice , d'ye think him a Rogue , yestruly Sir , says she , to aggravate the matter , he is a very Rogue : Nay , says the Justice , then 'tis pitty that a Rogue and a Whore should be parted , and so sent them both to Prison together ; then they both intreated him : Nay , says the Justice , confess and be hang'd ; and so sent them away .

26.

A mad harebrain'd Countrey Fellow , came to a great Lady that was his Landlady , to tell her that his Wife was brought to Bed : Faith 'tis true Madam , says

says he: How brought to Bed, says my Lady, what was she Drunk or Sick; no, no, Madam, I mean she has a Child: O, says my Lady, now I understand you: Well then, says she, what has God sent her: Faith, says he, nothing as I know of; I don't believe she ever heard from him in her life: Puh, says the Lady, I mean has she a Boy or a Girl: O d'ye mean so forsooth Madam; why guess then, says he: 'Tis a Boy, says My Lady, no vaith Madam guess again; why a Girl, says she: Vaith Madam I think in my Conscience you are a Witch, 'tis a Girl indeed.

## 27.

A Man being newly married, entred himself into a Fencing School the very next day after, which made most of the neighbours wonder why he did it: some thought that he had a better opinion of his Wives honesty than she deserved, and so thought 'twas to defend her: but the naked truth was, that he had *matcht* with her before, now he did intend only to *match* her, because he knew she'd be at *Daggers drawing* with him, if he did but look angry.

## 28.

A Gentleman walking through Fleet-street,

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street, accidentally met with a Physician who told him he was very glad to see him in good health : *Why yes Sir, says he, I believe you are: and the reason of my health is, because I never make use of any of your Trade* : therefore if a Physician says he is glad to see you well never believe him ; for if you are well, 'tis ill with him : nay I question if I should be ill with falling into a Well whether he could cure me or no.

### 29.

A Fellow was indited for stealing a Silver Cup, and the Judge askt him what he could say for himself, that Judgment should not pass upon him : He told him that he meant no hurt to the Man when he took it , and did only intend to pawn it for a time , and then to bring it back to him again , and pay him so much a month for the use whilst he had it , and that it was only a foolish custom he had got : *Well, says the Judge, if it be your custom to steal, 'tis also my custom to hang up those that do steal; for the Commandment says, Thou shalt not steal; Yes, says he, Thou must not steal, but I may; and therefore why should I be hang'd for it? And besides Sir, says the Thief,*

Thief, I take it very ill from you to offer to hang me, only for having a Cup too much : No, says the Justice, 'tis not for having a Cup too much, but for having a Cup more than your own : Sir, says he, I don't own it to be mine, 'tis his.

30.

A Cleanly Woman in Cambridgeshire, had made good store of Butter, and whilst she went a little way out into the Town about some earnest occasions, a neighbours Dog came in, in the meantime and eat up half the Butter : being come home, her Maid told her what the Dog had done, and that she had lockt him up in the Dairy House; so she took the Dog and hang'd him up by the Heels till she had squeez'd all the Butter out of his Throat again: which she pritty cleanly soul, took and put to the rest of the Butter, and made it up for Cambridge market; but her Maid told her she was ashamed to see such a nasty trick done: Hold your peace, you fool, says she, 'tis good enough for Schollards; a way to Market with it.

31.

An English Man and a Scotch Man were both in the hold of a Ship together, in

of in the last Ingagement at Sea , and as  
they were in the heat of the Fight, says  
the English man to him , *Come lets go*  
*up and partake with our Brethren in the*  
*Fight , and not stand here like drones and*  
*do nothing : Be God ,* says he , *we aw*  
*my heart ;* and as the English Man led  
the way , when he was half way up , a  
great Bullet came in and cut him just  
in two in the middle : *Uds bred ,* says  
the Scotch Man , *What the deel doft gang*  
*up to fight and leave thy Arse behind thee .*

## 32.

A French Man was scoffing at the Eng-  
lish Mens humours , because they did so  
admire their Nation : *Faith friends ,* says  
the English Man , *you are mistaken , for*  
*we in England do esteem you , as you in*  
*France do our Hounds , for pleasure .*

## 33.

At a general hurling in Cornwall , which  
is still observed twice a year , where also  
is great Wrestling and Cudgel-playing ,  
a Minister happening to be among  
the multitude there , for reproving a  
fellow for swearing so much , had his  
Head broke very deep by a stone that  
the fellow flung at him ; which some  
that stood by , seeing , said , *Come Sir ,*  
*we'll*

we'll go along with you to a Justice; no says the Minister, truly I think there more need to go with me to a Surgeon.

34.

A great Divine being extreamly Sick, a Physician was sent to him, and when he came, he askt him the cause of his Distemper: and finding the Physician to falter much in his discourse, he told him plainly he'd take none of his Physick: For, says he, if he be not able to shew me the cause, I am sure he is less able to take it away: and so had him turnd out.

35.

A Gentleman was saying, that this is a strange age we live in; because most Maids now adays, do much resemble their great Grand-mother Goody Eve: for she was no sooner a Woman, but she was married; and as she knew not her Husband till she had eaten Fruit, so most Maids now have commonly Fruit before they know their Husbands.

36.

An Upstart Domineering Fellow was bragging among a company Gentlemen of what an Ancient Family he was, and that his Blood was so Ancient as to

to be discerned from *Brute*; they told him they did believe him; for if he had not been a *Brute*, hee'd never a talkt at randome thus among so many Gentlemen, that knew him so well: but however, if Antiquity make the Blood great, as you say, then a *Louse* or a *Flea* may boast more than many Gentlemen: *Mathinks*, says he, *thats but a lowfie conceit*, I'll be *flead then*, says t'other.

## 37.

A Woman in the Country having lost abundance of Linnen off her Hedge, but could not imagine who was the Thief, so she went to a sober Gentleman, whom she took to be an Astrologer; to desire him to help her to her Linnen again; then he took her up into his Chamber and bid her lie down upon the Bed, and when he knew her as well as her Husband, he told her he would tell her more: *What*, says she, *d'ye intend to make me a Whore*, *Why yes*, says he, *why should not I make you a Whore as well as you make me a Witch*.

## 38.

*Hugh Peters* in former times coming into a Cathedral, where they were singing the Lettany; I wonder says a man

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why

why they would let any such Fellows come there : but however, he thought they sung very ill ; and whereas they sung, *have mercy upon us miserable sinners*; he said they had more need to say, *have mercy upon us miserable singers* : probatum est.

39:

A Rumpish Gallant that had been a little too forward (in those days) in buying of the Kings Lands, for which he did repent heartily, but not till 'twas too late ; and this same very person, had a little before made a Book call'd *A World in the Moon*; and after the Kings most happy Restauration, he had a great desire it seems to speak with his Majesty ; and among other discourse, says the King to him ; *Sir, I hear that you have found out a new World in the Moon, and I being a Sovereign Prince (as you see I am now, though you did not think me so formerly) sure I must needs have some Lands there, and if you please I will sell them to you; and what will you give me for them? O Sir, says he, I beg your Majesties pardon, for I find tis dangerous to purchase any Kings Lands.*

40.

Some Jovial Companions being in a Room a drinking together, one would have had another to have pledg'd him that Cup, he vow'd he would not; nay more than that, he said, he resolved to leave off drinking, because it made him have a short memory: which made the other laugh at him for it, swearing that he'd drink on still, because it made him have a long memory; for since I have learnt to drink hard, I am a year in rememb'ring that, which before I could call to mind presently; and so have a long memory.

41.

A Clown in Flander had a very pritty Woman to his Wife, and both came to an Inne six miles from Gaunt that night, and a lusty Spanish Souldier happened to lie there that night also, and when they were both in Bed, he seeing she was handsome, made up the number three in the Bed, without saying by your leaves, and the Woman it seems lay in the middle; and the Clown hearing the Souldier, as he thought something too bold with his Wife, durst not speak at first; at last he took a courage (for you must know he was

was wonderful valiant) and bid her desire the Spaniard to lie still; and she being a very discreet and good natur'd Woman and to avoid any further quarrelling: said, *Sweet Husband*, you know I can't speak Spanish, but let me entreat you to rise and go to the Sexton, for he speaks Spanish very well: So the good man followed his dear Wives advice and rose and went to him; and what was done then is quite out of my head now; yet I know the Womon must needs be vertuous, and I think you'l swear discreet; but before he came back the Spaniard was gone, which when he perceiv'd he began to domineer: swearing if he had him here how he would cudgel the Rogue, for troubling of them so that night: *In truth Husband*, says she, (verry discreetly) I am heartily glad you did not come while he was here, for in your anger I am sure you'd a kill'd him; and I know you are very desperate: But prithee sweet-heart, says he, how long did he stay when I was gone; truly Husband, says she, you were scarce out osh door but he ran away: Well, says he, I can't chuse but laugh so, see how I have scar'd him; you see what comes of policy and discretion now; for if I had

had been hasty, the Rogue might have kill'd me for ought I know, and then what wouldst thou have done for such a good Husband again my dear. Truly Husband, says she, 'twas best as 'tis, and I am very well pleas'd with what was done.

## 42.

Two quarrelling, one told the other that he did not care a fart for him; says the other, do but see now what a pittifull fellow and fool thou art, to slight a thing thus that comes from thy own loins; and does not a fart do so you puppy: nay more than that, for af-  
ter 'tis gone out, thou never looks after it more, as if your own brats ( like a beggerly fellow ) must be maintain'd by others; and because it goes away singing, thinks it wants nothing: but perhaps you'll say that by this doing you make a good report behind your back: but friend, friend, a man must never be a Trumpeter of his own prai-  
ses.

## 43.

An arrant Thief being in an honest Mans company, did call him Thief, Why how now, says the Man, what d'ye think every one is like you, or else is that word

so ready always in your mouth, because you are so your self ; time was indeed, I might if I had been acquainted with thee, have been such a one as thou art ; but time will come that thou'lt wish thy self such a one as I am. Nay , says he , before I'll wish my self honest, I'll be hang'd ; And I warrant thee, says t'other, if thou art not honest, thou wot be hang'd at last.

## 44.

An English Merchant told a handsome Venetian Curtesan that for all her subtlety and Beauty , he would lay a wager with her of Forty Crowns, that she could not tempt such a Man to her embraces, and yet she should lie with him all night : Well , says she , lay down the Forty Crowns I'll venture it ; which she did , and yet notwithstanding all her Inticements , she could prevail nothing with him : in the morning she was askt whether she had lost or not , she ingeniously confess'd she had lost one way but not another : For , says she , you told me I should lie with a Man , but I found that I lay with a Stone.

## 45.

A Gallant wooing his Mistris in Marriage , she told him she'd have none of

of him if he did not leave off taking Tobacco , which he was bound to under Hand and Seal , that he never should take any again ; and on the Wedding Night he lay still and stirr'd not ; she askt him the reason of it , he told her that she had bound him from Tobacco , which did usually make him active in all things , and without that was always like a Stone Statue ; then she imediately knockt for the Maid and bid her bring in the Bond , and withal some good Tobacco , and the Bond flung in the Fire ; and after he had taken a Pipe then he gave her a Kiss ; then she call'd the Wench again , saying Hussey , *I charge you to bring in adazem more, and than with all speed* ; which being done she left them to their repose .

## 46.

*Appelles*, the most famous Painter, in the time of *Alexander the Great*, had drawn the Picture of the said *Alexander* on Horse-back at *Ephesus* ; but when *Alexander* had seen it, it seems he did not give it that praise which it did deserve : upon which a Horse was imediately brought in, who as soon as he had seen the Painted Horse, began to neigh , as thinking it to be a true ; it was so ex-

quisitely done ; then *Appelles* told the King that that Horse did understand Painting much better than him.

## 47.

*Oliver Cromwell* when he was Protector, had a mind on a time to solace himself with some mirth, for then there was a Cavalier Doctor that came to him at that time about his Benefice which had been wrongfully took from him ; and *Oliver* knowing him to be Ingenious, was resolved to have some discourse with him ; and after much talk, *Oliver* told him of a strange thing that hapned lately ; O, says the Doctor, I can tell you of a stranger thing then that, and for a Bottle of Wine you shall know it : Well after a Bottle or two drinking, says *Oliver*, Come now Doctor your strange story : Why, says he, is not this a stranger thing then that, for who would have thought twenty years ago, that we should have had such a Copper-nos'd King ; and such a fat A—Queen.

## 48.

A Gentleman that was riding by a River-side, askt a Country Fellow whether that River might be past over or no ? Yes, says he, then the Gentleman

went

went to try, and of a sudden plung'd himself over head and ears ; and at last with much a do got out again : when he was out, says he , You Rogue , did you not tell me that I might pass over : Truly Sir , says he , I would not have you angry , for I meant no hurt ; for I thought you might go over safely , when I saw my Brother Masons Dog , that is less than your Horse , go over and back again without any danger ; and you and your Horse are ten times as big again as my Brothers Dog ; for a little one is sooner drowned than a great one Sir .

## 49.

A Noble Man in this Kingdom, desired a Gentleman ( that was a merry wag ) to accompany him down in the Country this last Summer, wherein they had several merry discourses , and among the rest the Lord desired him to ask what it was a Clock ; so he askt a Shepherd that was on one side of the Coach what it was a Clock , and he said Four ; then he askt another on t'other side of the Coach , and he said Five : then the Lord askt what twas a Clock , and he told him Nine : How so , says he , Why my Lord , says he , on this side  
the

the Coach 'twas told me Four, and the other Five, and is not that Nine : then the Lord bid him look on his Watch, which it seems was half an hour to slow, and my Lords went too fast ; yet he told him that his went the right : No, my Lord, says he, mine must needs be truest, for you know the Proverb is slow and sure.

50.

A notorious Rogue being brought from Banbury to the Jail at Oxford for several Rogueries which he had done, was askt how he came thither ; For, says he, methinks this looks like a Prison ; Faith, says he, I know not yet what it looks like, but I am sure a blind Man might have come hither as well as I ; for I was brought hither.

51.

A notable Drunkard went out into the street of Gloucester Garrison, in the time of the Rump, and there publickly piss before all the People ; for which he was shrewdly rebukt : O, says he, neighbours what a gracious Governor have we, that will suffer his Soldiers to stand and piss in the street thus without correction.

61. A.

52.

A Young Country Fellow went a wooing to a Country Lass, and he had on then a spick and span new Suit with Silver Buttons also; and in all his discourse with her, he used all the Art he could to have her take notice of his Buttons; at last when he saw that she would take no notice of them at all: Well, says he, these Silver Buttons keep me so warmt; yes, says she, you had best lie in 'em all night, lest you should take cold this frosty weathe.

53.

A Rich Usurer in Oxford, that had one Summer bought the Crop of Grass which then was standing in a large Meadow near Maudlin Bridge, but it seems it happened that Summer that there fell great store of Rain, which was succeeded with a great Flood, which came after the Grass was cut and half made into Hay; which was almost all carried into the adjacent Rivers, and that which was left all destroyed; he then comes very pensively to Maudlin Bridge and leans upon the Wall, saying,

What Grass: no by the Mass:

What Hay: no by my Fay:

What Fodder ne'r Nodder

What Muck the worst Luck.

54. A

54.

A reverend Old Woman, that had liv'd but 70 odd or thereabouts, and being something unsatisfied in her Religion, went to the Minister of the Town, who was a Presbiter, and having askt her many questions, at last askt her how many Commandments there were? Truly Sir, says she, an't please your Worship I don't know, for I never minded any of 'em at all; then he call'd down his Maid Anne, and bid her name them all to her; and she named Nine of 'em: What, says he, is there but Nine? No Sir, fays she, for you and I broke one last night: Nay, says the Old Woman, if they be so easie to be broke, I am glad I had nothing at all to do with them.

55.

Some Gentlemen that were riding a hunting in a gloomy day, and coming to a Shepherd that sate there under a bush, they askt him what weather 'twould be to day, he said that weather which pleaseth me, they askt him what he meant by that: Truly, says he, it shall be what weather it pleaseth God, and what weather pleaseth God that weather pleaseth me.

56. A

56.

A Gentleman that was a great Courtier of Ladies, and lov'd hawking very much, was riding through Burford in Oxford-shire, and seeing a fellow going home with a Sheeps-head : says the Gentleman, *'Tis such Rogues as this as makes our Dogs Meat so dear.* And you, says the fellow, *'tis that makes Whores so dear ;* for formerly a man might have had one for a Groat, but you have so rais'd the price, that we can't get e'm now at any ordinary rate.

57.

F. An Ignorant Lawyer was called into the Court by a Judge, and when he came near him : says he, *My Lord I know nothing at all ; Why,* says the Judge, who says you do ; and I do believe you to, says he, and therefore I intend not to ask you any thing in point of Law, but for a Witness ; and though you have no Law in you, yet you may have so much Religion in you as not to forswear your self.

58.

In the great Market-place at Orleans in France, a Man was playing so well on the Harp, that he ravish't all the hearers ; but just as the Market Bell rung, they

they all left him and went to their Markets but one deaf man ; then the Harper went to him and thanke him for staying when all the rest went away at the Bells ringing ; *How*, says he, *has the Market Bell rung ?* and so harpt upon that string till they told him Yes, *Nay then farewell, for I must be gone so.*

## 59.

An Impudent and Brazen-fac't Fellow would almost every day intrude and invite himself to a Person of Qualities House still about Dinner and Supper time ; and once at his coming in , the Gentleman bid 'em stay Dinner a while ; then he askt one of the Servants what time Dinner would come up ? *Faith*, says the Fellow, *I'll assure you Sir, not before you are gone.*

60.

Queen Elizabeth came to a Corporation in England in her Progress, and the Mayor, which it seems was very ingenious, was to make a speech to her ; he began thus : *O our Royal Queen, who looks so like an Angel, and art so truly Noble, whose Head does wear a Crown. Come, come,* says the Queen, *take away that prattling fellow there, or else he'll bring me 63 Ten Groats anon.*

61. A

61.

A Quaker met with one of his Holy Sisters, and askt her how all far'd at home; Truly, says she, we all fare well but my Daughter Rebekah, for she is fain; what from the truth? no: fain in Love? no: for a zealous Brother did fall in Love with her, and she since is fain asunder; and as we in our Country say, fain in twain: O Sister, Sister, says he, when zealous Kittens meet, they will play together; for 'tis natural to 'em so to do.

62.

A Gentleman of a great estate, who it seems hated Tobacco, and hearing his Eldest Son did take it, though not in his presence; he told him if he knew that he did take Tobacco, that he would disinherit him: Truly Father, says he, they that told you so were mistaken; for before that I will take any Tobacco, I'll see it all a fire: Say'st thou so my Boy, says he, I'll give thee 500 l. a year the more for that.

63.

A Man that liv'd at a Market Town, intending to go further into the Country, but having forgot something, came at night back again, and on the Bed found a pair of Breeches; and looking further, found

found a Man a-bed with his Wife : *Are these your Breeches ?* says he , Yes , says the Man : *I profess ,* says he , *if ever I find you a-bed with my Wife again , I'll throw your Breeches out o'th window.*

64.

A Gentleman was drolling with a Woman , and told her he was resolved to lie with her that night , but she told him she had her Husbands company then : Says he , *I must confess , though I love your Husbands company well , yet then I had rather have his room than his company : And truly ,* says she , *I had rather have his room empty at any time then to have your company.*

65.

A Person of Quality in this Kingdom , was one night at supper at *Pickadilly-house* , which was then an Ordinary and great Gaming House , where he had bowled all day ; and after Supper he call'd for some Cheese , which it seems was very thin and lean ; then he askt the Master of the House where those Cows went , of whose Milk that Cheese was made : he told him they grass'd not far off ; then he swore a great Oath that he was confident that they never fed in

in any other place then his Bowling-Alley, which was made good by the fatness of the Cheese they now tasted of: for it cries *Rub, rub*, in the eating of it, when 'tis so long a going down.

66.

Another Person of Quality also, in this Kingdom, amongst other Gentlemen, did often meet at a Bowling-Alley, which stood next to the Church-yard; and the Parson of that Church had this Benefit, That if any did swear there, he was to have 12 d. for every Oath: This person aforesaid, happened to swear a great Goliath Oath, upon which the Parson demanded 12 d. which he gave him, and after that swore many others, for which he paid 12 d. a piece; and then swearing another, he demanded 12 d. as before; then he pluckt out of his pocket a 20 Shilling piece and bid him give him 19 s. again: Sir, says he, I cannot: Why then, says he, take it, for I intend to swear it out.

67.

Queen Elizabeth was very much importuned by a Gentleman that was one of her Servants, for an Imployment that then was fallen: Why, says the Queen, you are

are not fit for it; An't please your Ma-  
jesty, says he, I can get one to officiate  
for me; I thank you indeed, says the Queen,  
for that, for so I may put in one of my  
Maids, and they can do it as well.

68.

A Simple Fellow that talkt very much,  
was advised by his friend to say very  
little or nothing at all, and then he'd  
be thought a Wise Man; and after that,  
when ever any Body askt him any que-  
stion, he would not speak at all; which  
made them alter their thoughts of him:  
for whereas they thought him ( though  
a prating yet ) a good natur'd fool, now  
they took him to be a dogged fool.

69.

A Weaver at Burdeaux in France,  
dreamt one night that he was a Cuc-  
kold, so he went to the Priest to de-  
sire him to take his Wives confession,  
especially in that point: Well says the  
Priest to him; I'll lend thee my Gownd and  
Hood, and you shall shrive her your self:  
and it seems this very Priest had been  
very familiar with her; and while he  
was waiting for his Wives comming, he  
went and told her of the passage, and  
that 'twas her Husband in his Habit,  
that

that was to shrieve her : so she comes to him , and after many impertinent questions which he askt her , she told him she had lain only with three men, which was an *Young Man*, an *Old Man* and a *Frier* : So he came home , as he thought undiscover'd ; and as he was at work , he often repeated the *Young Man*, the *Old Man*, and the *Frier* : Faith Husband , says she , I believe the Priest has told you what I confess'd to day , and I did indeed so confess it ; and yet Husband these three were but one : for I lay with you when you were a *Young Man* , and don't I lie with you now you are *Old* ; and were not you the *Frier* to day ? therefore all those three were you my dear Husband : And is it so my dear Wife ? Now thou hast given me so great satisfaction , that I shall never have an ill opinion of thee again : Come kiss me. Then he with tears in his eyes kissed her , and askt her pardon for his former mistrust of her ; and the Frier was as welcome to them , and who but the Frier , when they had any feast : Thus you see what 'tis for Men to mistrust their Wives when there is no cause , as you see it was in this Virtuous Woman.

70.

A Great German Prince, that was much addicted to Drinking, had drank so much one day, that the next he was very sick ; then his Fool came in to him and askt him why he was so melancholly ? he told him his sickness was occasion'd by drinking yesterday : Why then , says the Fool , if that be all, I'll be your Physician ; that is if you are ill with drinking one day , the next day take a Hare of the same Dog . Well , says the Prince , and what the second day ? the Fool told him the same again : And what the third day ? the same to . And what at the fourth ? Why the same : We'll come to the purpose , says he , and what the fifth day ? Why Faith , says he , then you'll be as arrant a fool as I am .

71.

A Gallantit seems upon a time cast his eye upon precise Mistriss Temperance, a Feather-makers Wife, and after a little conference, swore he would lie with her : What , says she , can't you glance upon a modest Woman as I am , but you must covet ; indeed Brother I must chide you for it : Well , says she , but that I am tender of Oaths , and would be loath to have you break yours , for the Oaths sake I am willing to consent to

you

u at present; but otherwise I profess I would  
n't do it, if you'd give me a thousand pound,

72.

A pretty Woman did intice a Prentice  
f hers to lie with her ; at last he con-  
sen-  
ed , where they met often ; but at last  
y some accident they were catcht a-bed  
ogether , and the Youth was brought  
before a Justice ; then the Justice after  
he had examined him in several particu-  
ars , told him he should have done as  
Joseph did , to have left his Coat behind  
him rather than to have done such a thing:  
Truly , says he , so I did , for I did not take  
my Coat , Doublet , nor Breeches to Bed  
with me : But I mean , says the Justice ,  
you should rather have lost your Coat then  
to do so wicked a thing : O Sir , says he ,  
dye mean so ; but I remember that I have  
read that Joseph's Mistriss was a black and  
ugly Woman , but if she had been as fair as  
my Mistriss , I question whether he would  
have left his Coat behind him or not : Well ,  
says the Justice , I shall pass by this be-  
cause 'tis the first time , but if ever I find you  
so guilty again , I would not be in your Coat  
for Ten pounds : And truly , says he , if any  
Body take me napping in the same manner a-  
gain , I'll give him Ten pounds and my Coat  
too .

73. A

73.

A Gallant once meeting in Covent Garden with a handsome and it seems smart Lass, with her naked Breasts appearing very largely: Says he, *I pray Mistris is that Flesh to be sold?* No, says she, no Money shall buy it: Well, says he, then let me advise you if you will not sell, you should shut up your shop: Faith, says she, you may be confident I shall shut you out for ever entring into any of my doors: Then, says he, you have doers, but if you have, they must needs be wicked doers.

74.

A Fellow at a Coffee-house swore that he saw a very strange thing done in Suffolk lately, they askt him what it was? Then he told them a Masty Dog ran at a Gentleman, and he not knowing how to avoid him, first thrust his hand into his Mouth, and after that quite thorow and catch'd hold of his Tail, and being very strong by main force turn'd him the wrong side outwards; all which he confirm'd with a lusty Oath, and that he saw it done himself.

75.

A Man having a very Vertuous and good Huswifely Woman to his Wife (as you will find by the story) it seems he lost

lost her for three or four days, and having searcht all about for her, at last she came home of her own accord, and told him that she'd tell him very good news if he would not be angry with her, and indeed you have no cause if you know all; for you know that we have a great deal of Money to pay for rent and other things: *But Husband*, says she, *I have got Money enough to pay every Body*. How he took it I can't tell, but certainly she was a good Woman and loving to her Husband.

## 76.

One was asking why Monks and Friars were call'd Holy Fathers? another that was there told him there was a great deal of reason for it; in regard of the multitude of Bastards they do yearly get in all places: which shews indeed they are wholly Fathers.

## 77.

A Fanatick did lately extreamly exclaim against the Surplice in the Church, but a little after he was catch'd a-bed with one of his Holy Sisters; and in the same place where he would not have a Surplice worn, he poor heart was forc'd there to wear a Sheet.

## 78. An-

78.

Aonther Fanatick did advise his neighbour to leave off all wickedness whatsoever, especially that of the Flesh, and live altogether by the Spirit ; for we Holy Men all do so : Yes, says his neighbour, I do believe you, for sure 'twas some Spirit that mov'd you to get your Maid with-child.

79.

A Rhodomontado Fellow was vapering that he could speak most Languages perfectly, and something of all Languages : Yes, says another I believe you can ; for you can speak to my knowledge these two words, *Amen* and *Tobacco*, which is the same in all Languages.

80.

A Lusty Young Man was earnest with his Father to be married, and after much importunity he was married to a neighbours Daughter ; he had not been Mafried six Months, but he look'd so bad, and was so ill and so feeble, that he could scarce stand upon his Legs ; a little after he spi'd a Butcher running over a plow'd Field after a mad Bull, then he askt him why he did so ? he told him to tame him : O, says he, let him be married, let him be married, if that don't tame him I'll be hanged.

81. A

A Woman in twenty weeks after marriage, was brought to bed of a Boy: How now Wife, says he, methinks this is a little too soon: No Husband, says she, you mistake, for we married only a little too late: Faith and I think so to, says he; and if ever we happen to marry again, we'll be sure to marry a little sooner, or not marry at all, for this trick. But Husband, says she, you don't know the custom yet of the Womens going with-child; for we go twenty weeks by day and twenty weeks by night: Other, says he, chiam zatisfied.

A Rich Simpleton was to Court a pretty Maid, and when he was come to her, his Man would still be to help him out, (but I think he need not do that, for he was out enough himself) then she askt his Man what estate he had? he said a 1000 l. a year: Puh, says he, my Mans a Fool; I, and a thousand and a thousand, and a thousand to that too: Then she askt him how long his Master went to School? he said near a twelve month: He lies, says he, I was not there half so long; for my Master did nothing but whip me, so he did: Then she askt his Man how old

old his Master was? He told her about five and twenty: *Pub*, says he, *I am five and twenty, and five and twenty, and five and twenty too: I think my Man is the arrantest Fool in the World: You speak for me, I hope I have so much wit as to speak for my self; and I hope Mistress forsooth you'll love me now, now you have heard all my good qualities: Yes, says she, I am willing to have you, so you'll promise me never to be my Husband: Yes, forsooth, says he, I'll do any thing to please you, so you'll have me.*

## 83.

A Gentleman that came home one night drunk in the Winter time, was had to Bed; and his Wife staying up long after; when she was going to Bed, she bid her Maid warm her side of the Bed with ~~the~~ Pan; and as she was doing of it, by chance burnt her Masters Thigh, which he felt not then, sleeping soundly: and about three days after, a Gentleman meeting of him in Oxford, askt him how he came so lame? *Nothing, says he, but only burnt by a whore.*

## 84.

One since the Kings Restauration, meeting with one of Olivers Relations

in

in the Park, thought to put a trick upon her; Saying, *Madam, your Father stinks now. Pray Sir, let me ask you a question, that is, Whether he be living or dead?* He then told her he was dead: *By my troth Sir, says she, I thought so; for if he had been living, he would have made you stink too.*

## 85.

A great Lady that liv'd in a Market Town in the North, was pleased to give a Fool that was kept at the Town charge, his Diet every day; and one day coming about Eleaven of the Clock, two of my Ladies Gentlemen were playing at Tables in the Hall, and they a one side o'th Table and the Jackanapes a t'other, looking on them as they plaid; and as soon as it knockt to the Dresser, the Gentlemen left their Game to carry up Dinner; then the Ape took up the Dice in his hand, and flung them as they did, and turn'd the men about also: says the Fool to the Ape; *Come faith I'll play with thee for a pot and a pipe;* and went to take the dice out of his hand; then the Ape grinn'd and chattter'd at him, and still kept the dice in his hand, and would not throw: Then says the Fool, *throw, if*

thou best a man throw ; and offer'd to take the dice away from him : which so incens'd the Ape, that he flew upon him, and had certainly kill'd him, had not some of the Gentlemen that privately lookt on , came to his rescue : and from that time to this the Fool could never be got to come to the House. And when he was to pass by the House, he would still go a t'other side of the Street, looking fearfully a one side, fearing the Ape should see , which it seems he did out of the window ; and had he not been chain'd , had certainly leapt down and fell upon him ; which the Fool seeing, ran away crying as fast as he could, and left his Cap behind him for haste ; and could never be got to come thorow that street again.

## 86.

In the Parliament at *Paris* , there's none to be admitted but very Solid and Wise Men , but at the importunity of a Princess, *Henry the Second* did recommend one to sit there, but being of shallow parts, was imediately rejected : upon which says the King merrily , *I thought that among so many Ginnets one Ass might have past well enough.*

## 87. The

87.

The same King of France sent one Gal-  
lis a French Bishop to the Council at  
Trent; who in a very Learned Speech  
did taxe the Vices and Disorders which  
were then crept into the Church; upon  
which the Popes Nuncio laught, say-  
ing, *The Cock crows now.* I wish, says  
he, that by the crowing of this Cock, St.  
Peters Successor, and the rest of his Crew,  
might be rais'd up to repentence with tears  
as he was: Then says the Nuncio, It  
seems you'd have us go out and weep: Troth,  
says he, I think 'tis the best way; for if  
you stay here you'll do nothing else but  
quarrel.

88.

Herodotus says, That the Town of Agrigentum, sent one Gellius, that was a very ugly Man, Ambassador to Centuripe, a low and very dirty Town in Sicily; and when he was to have Audience, they all wondered at his ugliness; which he perceiving, told them that his Masters of Agrigentum do always send fair Embassadors to those Cities that are fair, but does always send foul to those Cities that are so foul as yours is.

C 3

89. Don

89.

*Don Pedro*, the Spanish Ambassador, being in *Paris*, was much magnifying the power of the Spanish King to *Henry the Fourth*, King of *France*: Then the King told him, if he once got into the Saddle, he would soon be in *Madrid*. Indeed, says *Don Pedro*, King *Francis the First* was there (being indeed in Prison there two or three years together;) But says he, your Master has usurpt *Navarre* from me: He said that the Justice which got it him, would help him to defend it: Yes, says the King, Your reason's good till I be in *Pampelona*; with that *Don Pedro* was rushing out of the doors; the King askt him whither he was going in such haste? he told him to provide entertainmenr for his Majesty at *Pampelona*.

90.

The French Ambassador being at Dinner with *King James*, the King in mirth drank a health to him; saying, *The King of France drinks a health to the French King*: upon which the French Embassadour suddenly replied; *The King my Master is a good Lieutenant, for he hold France well for you*: No, says the King,

he

he holds it from me. Truly Sir, says the Embassadour, it is no further from you than 'twas.

## 91.

Count Gundamore, being Embassador for the King of Spain in England, and being jesting with King James and speaking in Latine, did many times speak false Lattine: What, says the King, how comes it that you break Priscians head so often, being Embassador to so great a King, as you say your Master is? O Sir, says he, your Majesty must know that I speake Latine like a King; but your Majesty speakes Latino like an Embassador.

## 92.

When the Duke of Buck his Mother the Countess was the only party sued to in all business, that Count Gundamore sent word into Spain, that there was great hopes now that the English would turn Catholicks, for the Mother was more worshipt than the Son.

## 93.

The same Count Gundamore being invited to the Readers Feast at Grays Inne, just at the time of the Palsgrave (who was elected a little before King of Bohemia) was come to Prague; and among

other healths , one was begun to the King of Bohema ; he pledg'd it merrily, and thankt the Reader and all the rest of the Company ; for 'twas the first time that ever he pledg'd the Emperours Health in *England*.

## 93.

Just at *Gundamors* going for *Spain*, King *James* sent to the Lord Mayor to invite him to Dinner before he went ; and being at Dinner several Healths went about , and began by the Mayor ; then *Gundamore* began a Health to the King of *Spain's* Mistriss , and after that another to his Wife : by his Mistriss he meant the *East-Indies* , wherein he did give the English leave to be dabbling in their Traffick ; but by his Wife he meant the *West-Indies* , which he is resolved solely to keep to himself : Therefore I pray my Lord Mayor , and you the rest of these Noble Aldermen , do not offer to meddle with the King my Master's Wife.

## 94.

An *Italian* Prince sent an Embassador to the Emperour , to desire that his Master might have the Title of Serenity bestowed upon him , as well as to several other Princes , which the Emperour denied ;

denied ; and taking his leave of the Emperour, when he was going away for Italy, in a very tempestuous morning , the Emperour askt him why he would go away in such a tempestuous day ? he answered , Because we need not fear tempests , since your Majesty has fill'd the World with such Serenity .

95.

The State of Genoa , sent an Ambassador to the Duke of Millan , who was then the Protector to Genoa ; who could not by all the means he could make , get Audience : who finding he was delayed , and abused , upon St. Jo'n Baptists day , who was the Protector of Millan , he presented the Duke with a Golden Vessel full of Basilisque ; being askt the reason ; he said , The Genovois have the property of the Herb Basilique , which if handled gently would yield a sweet smell ; but if rubb'd too hard , or trod upon , it will engender Serpents . Which witty passage made the Duke give him Audience , and did his business what he came for .

96.

The Samnites being much overprest by the Romans , they sent Embassadors to Capitulate ; who said the Noble Ro-

mans .

mans are grown too strong for us ; therefore if you propose moderate terms to us , we will always observe them , if otherwise (you may be certain) we will observe them no longer , but till we have an opportunity to break them .

## 97.

Two Embassadors from *Perugia* was sent to *Rome* to the Pope , of which the one was Wise , but the other not ; and being admitted to the Pope , who was then sick in Bed , one of them made a long and tedious speech to him , at which the Pope seemed distasted ; then the other said , *If your Holiness will not suddenly dispatch us with satisfaction , he told him his Colleague was commanded by our Masters to recommence his Speech and pronounce it again more leisurely* ; which the Pope fearing , and being ill also , and liking this witty expression ; gave order for their dispatch as they desired .

## 98.

An Ambassador being in a Pagan Country , and standing accidentally in the way where stood the great Idol which all were to worship as they passed by , he let fall his Ring ; and as he bowed to take it up again , one said that he ador'd

ador'd the Idol ; but he did ring him by the Ears for so saying.

## 99.

The Florentines once sent an Apothecary for their Ambassador to *Alphonso* King of *Naples*, and having acquitted himself Elegantly and with much Generosity, at his first Audience, the King said, *If the Apothecaries of Florence are such, what shall we think of their Physicians; for the Pills of this Speech wrought stronger with me, than ere his other Pills did to any of his Patients;* alluding to the Family of *de Medicis*, that were then Governors there.

## 100.

A Woman that had a good handsome young Daughter, sent her to her Landlord at New-years-tide with a New-years-gift, and he being a lusty Bachelor, and lov'd a pretty Lady besides, and seeing the Maid to be handsome, with some importunity and some gratuity, got her consent, that she prov'd with-child; for whose maintenance and Mothers too, he paid for: and then hearing of a lusty Young Woman and Rich, that liv'd hard by him, he became a Suiter to her in Marriage; to which the

She easily condescended: and on that day that they were to be married, the other that he had got with-child before, came to the Church also to see the Wedding with her Child in her Arms; and all the while they were in the Church, that Woman would dandle her Child up and down in her Arms, and sometimes look upon her Landlord and sometimes on her Child, with a smiling countenance; which that Woman that was that day to be married to him observing, told him plainly, that she would not be married till he gave her satisfaction concerning that Woman and her Child: he put her off still with excuses, but at last he told her he would tell her the truth if she would not take it ill: No, says she, I will not, let it be what it will. Why then, says he, I got her with-child, and that is the Child in her Arms: Puh, says she, is that all; I had one a Twelve-month ago by a Londoner that lodg'd at our House: Say you so, says he, then I faish I'll marry a Whore of my making rather than of another mans; and so call'd the Woman to him that had the Child in her Arms, and married her presently.

101.

A Little Girle about twelve years, took her Sister which was about two years old upon her Back a pick-pack, and running about the room with it, said, *Who'll buy my pack, who'll buy my pack?* At last her Father seeing no body else would take notice of her, call'd to her, and said, *Come I'll buy your pack;* with that she took the Child off her Shoulders and gave it to her Father, saying, *Here take it, 'tis a Pigg of your own Sow:* probatum est.

102.

A Priest in former times went up into the Pulpit, and he took his Text where there were fed with a few Loaves and Fishes above a thousand people; but to confirm his Doctrine with a great Miracle, said, he fed with a few Fishes Four hundred People; which the Clark that stood underneath him, hearing, presently stopt up to him, and whispered to him that 'twas four thousand people: *Peace fool, says he, (I know what I do)* let them believe this first.

103.

A Man met near Billings-gate a Hartford-shire Man and his Wife, that he had not

not seen a long time ; and told him he'd give his Wife some Oysters ; Hang her, says he , *she never eat any Oysters in her life* ; for *she eat but three t'other day*, and *she was as sick as the driven snow* : what with eating of three? No , says he, but with eating of Oysters ? Why you said first *she eat none* : Yes , says he, *none but three*.

104.

A School Boy in Oxford was surpriz'd in the street , by having a great occasion to untruss a point , and the fashion in those days was that they tied their Breeches with Points , and the poor Boys one was so tied, that he could not undo it, though he were in a great deal of haste ; and at last finding he could not untie it , was forc'd for haste sake to put off Doublet and all in the corner of a street , and for haste sake as before said ; never took notice how his Doublet fell ; so that he discharged his Gun just in the sleeve of his Doublet , and did not know it neither ; and fearing any should come by, he hastened away, and put on his Doublet again : and when he had thrust in his Arm , he thrust with his fist all the powder that came out of his Gun ; and finding himself in this sweet powder

powder pickle, instead of going to School, he was forc'd to go home to mundifie himself; which when it came to be known, there was an Adjective added to his Surname for a long time after, that had an sh. at the beginning.

105.

A rich Knight in the Countrey, that was covetous withal, had a Daughter whose Name was *Grace*, that was very handsome, and indeed of good humor, witty, and well-bred, which a young man had a kindness for; but having no fortune, durst not presume further than joking: and having heard the Knight say that he would make his Daughter worth 2000*l.* he in a frolick comes to him, and knowing him to be very covetous, told him that he knew how to save him 500*l.* in a business; and this young man was a Lawyers Clerk, and therefore he thought he might discover something about the Law wherein he might stand him in some stead, and so bid him very welcome, and invited him to dinner; and after dinner bid his Wife give him some Sweet-meats, and the wet went into his mouth, but the dry made a sally into his pocket; and after having fill'd both belly, pockets, and

and mind with good meat, sweet-meats, and good welcome, the Knight told his Wife what a good Friend he was to him, and how he knew that he could save him *500 l.* in a business, which made his Wife the more earnest to know it; and being all three fated down in the Couch together, and Mrs. Grace in another Chair by, the Knight ask'd him wherein he could do him that courtesie as he spoke of? *Why thus I can do it Sir*, says he, *I am certainly informed that you will give in Marriage with your Daughter Grace 2000 l.* and *I am willing to take her with 1500 l.* The Knight hearing what he said, began to curse and swear, then the Gentleman thankt him for his sweet-meats; no, says he, thank my Wife for them: but after that, for the conceits sake, Mrs. Grace had a great kindness for him; for fear of which they instantly clapt up a Match for her; but 'tis confidently said that the Lawyers Clerk (who indeed was a Gentleman) made her frequent Visits, and with allowance, of the Female, but whether of the new married Male, I know not.

106.

An old Widdower, that had been long  
solici-

soliciting a young Woman in marriage, and after he had prais'd himself to the height every way, as both to estate, person, and ingenuity ; he then told her of a young Man that he had to his Son, that was qualified and very handsome , and that he'd settle a good estate upon him : Well Sir, says she, now you have said all you have to say ; I am now to tell you , that if you have a mind to speed in your suit, make haste and send me your Son.

## 107.

A Lady in this Kingdom hearing that a Lady that was a person of quality, did much long for Oysters , she then sent a Footman of hers, that was an Irish Man, to the said Lady with a Barrel of Oysters ; and as he was going, he met an arch wag by the way , who askt him whither he was going ? then he told him : O Donnel, says he , you must gut them before you go , or else they will poison the Lady : I predde, says he , show me how to do it ? so the Fellow took them and opened them, and took out all the Oysters and put them into a Woodden Dish that was by , and then put all the shells again into the Barrel : Now, says he, you may carry them, for they are all gutted:

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*E Fait*, said Donnel, for this kindness I'll give thee a pint of Wine out of the vails that I shall have of my Lady: but I know not how they were accepted.

108.

A Blind Man inviting another Blind Man to Supper: *Methinks*, says the blind Host, this Candle burns dim: So methinks too, says the blind Guest: *Wife*, says he, mend this light with a pox't ye, that we may see the better to chuse our meat. Then she being a very obedient and obliging Woman, put the Candle quite out, and presently clapt down two empty Candlesticks upon the Table, because she knew her Husbands feeling was good still: *Now Husband*, says she, how d'ye like it? I marry, says he, now 'tis light indeed; Come neighbour fall to and welcome: And after supper he bid his Wife light the Guest out-a-doors: *My self you mean*, says she, No, I mean him; Why, says she, he's blind: Why then you whore, has he not the more need of light.

109.

A Fellow was telling a Minister (that knew him well enough) that he had kept all the Commandments: Truly, says the Minister, I believe you have; and first for having

I'll having no other Gods but one, thou keep'st  
within that bound, for thou hast none at  
all; and for fear of worshiping a false  
God, thou doest worship none at all; and  
for taking Gods name in vain, thou never  
swor'st but for some purpose of good to thy  
self and ill to thy neighbour; and for Ho-  
ly days thou'lt break none, and rather make  
twenty than break one; neither do'st thou  
dishonour thy Father and thy Mother, for  
thou never com'st near 'em at all; and  
where thou shalt not kill, to clear thee of  
that, thou art afraid to fight with a Mouse:  
and then for adultery or fornication, I am  
sure I can clear thee; for there's no Wo-  
man but hates thy fight, and smell also,  
thou art so rank; and therefore must needs  
be a man of great rank: and faith that's  
rare to see a man of great rank to keep the  
Commandments; and for stealing, I am sure  
thou art free from it now (I know not what  
thou hast been) for now thou art fast pin-  
on'd in Newgate both hands and feet; and  
for false witness, I am sure thou can'st give  
none; for whatsoever thou say'st none will  
believe thee; but if thou swear'st it, then  
they'll swear 'tis a lie: and then for cov'ting  
thy neighbours maid or his wife, that thou'lt  
never do; for thou know'st that they per-  
fectly

fecly hate thee; neither need'st thou covet his Ox or his Ass, for thou need'st not the drawing of the Ox because thou art drawn by the Officers, still from jail to jail; nor his Ass neither, for how then couldst thou ride upon the Ass, when thou hast thy shackles on? and I have seldom seen thee out of one jail or other since I knew thee first; and commonly they that live in jails, as you say, do generally keep all the commandments: that is keeping other men from keeping of them.

## I 10.

Though age and youth can never agree, yet once I knew two young and two old folks agree like Lambs together for divers years: and thus it was, An old Woman lov'd a young Man and married him; and likewise an old Man lov'd a young Woman, and he married her; they were both coupled at one time, and all liv'd in an house together all their lives; and being once married and thorowly acquainted, they never differ'd afterwards; for they still coupled themselves all day: that is, the old ones to prate and the young ones to play; which the old Man and the old Woman lookt upon

as

as good nature in 'em both : for you know that Birds of a Feather will flock together, or did you ever see that *May* day and the first of *December* came nigh one another.

## III.

In a time when Conies could speak, (for you know they have mouths as well as us, and so by consequence may speak) says one to t'other, which wouldit thou have the Winter to be, Frost or Snow? Frost, says one, for it makes us fat, and Snow makes us lean: but says t'other, thou knowst that Forty fat Conies are kill'd in a night, when the lean scape with life; yes, says he, but where Snow lies too long, the Conies by famine will go near to die every one: then 'tis better to be fat, says an old grave Co-ney, let it chance how 'twill, then to be lean and so die all.

## III.

Two great Wits were disputing together which was the best work the Glasiers or the Lattice-makers, for they are both different one from t'other; for the Glasier keeps out the wind and lets in the Light, and the Lattice keeps out the light and lets in the wind, and so by

by consequence the Glasier is the best; First, because he compositeth quarrels, and so the most fit to be a Constable; and yet o't'other side, he is often making of quarrels, so that the Lattice must not be despised, because it always does let us know where the good Bub is; and therefore let us always take notice of that.

## 113.

One askt a young Gentleman, what he made of his estate now his Father was dead? He told him that he made more in one year than his Father did in twenty; for he made but Five hundred pound a year of it, but I made Ten thousand pound of it in one years time: O, says he, then I find that you were so good a Husband, that you sold it a year after your Fathers death; and I question now whither you will make any thing of it at all before the twenty years be at an end.

## 114.

A great Robber in Ireland, having been condemn'd to die, was extreamly troubled at it; but the Priest that was with him, bid him be of good chear, for his next meal should be in Heaven, Faith, says he, I have small appetite

to Heavenly Food ; but if you will take the Dinner for me I'll give you Five pounds for so pay the reckoning : The Priest then very ingeniously told him he thought there would be flesh there, and this being Friday, he never yet eat flesh on that day, and so desired him to excuse him at present ; but this I will assure you Sir , that if ever you make me such another offer at this place and upon another day, you may be confident I shall not refuse it ; but at present I cannot accept of it, yet thank you for your kindness as much as if I had it.

## 115.

Two Widdows that were devillish scolds and very litigious, had spent great store of Money in Law about a frivolous thing : a friend comes to one of them , and told her that her enemy had removed her Suit into the Chancery : Well, says that Virago, let her remove it to Hell, I am sure I shall have a Lawyer to follow it ; for I am sure some of 'em has followed me to Hell for a Dinner.

## 116.

A Man once askt a sottish Fellow where ne lay ? he told him he lay at the Three Cups in Breadstreet : Faith, says he, show

thou might' st well have left out Breadstreet,  
for whether thou do' st Sup or Dine, e'r thou  
goest to bed thou' t be in thy Cups.

117.

A Fellow did extreamly brag that he  
was very rich, and we all know that  
he was a Huntington-shire Man, and al-  
ways liv'd at St. Needs, and how then  
could he be rich.

118.

One askt a Woman what Trade her  
Husband was? she told him he was a  
Dyer: *I thought so*, says he, for he has  
died thy Face black and blew with his fist:  
Pray, says he, does he die Oft's; Yes, says  
she, when Customers call upon him; but  
were he gone, I would never wed a Dyer a-  
gain; for they are ever dying but never dead.

119.

Some Gentlemen were the last Christ-  
mass at a Friends House a making merry  
together, and four of the Company be-  
ing at Cards together at a Table, where  
one was as it were lockt in, and could  
not get out, without disturbing the rest of  
the company: and being an arch wag,  
he desired the Mistriss of the House to  
let her Maid do him but a small cour-  
tesie; she told him yes, with all her  
heart:

heart: so he wink'd upon the company, not to laugh nor take any notice of his conceit at all, but follow their game: then he spoke to the Girle (which was not above 14 years of age, and newly come out of the Countrey and a very innocent poor soul) and intreated her that she would but do him so much kindness (in regard he could not come forth himself) as to go into the yard and make water for him; with that the Girle began to blush, but her Mistriss (to keep up the humour (kept her countenance also) and said to the Girle, *Hussy, If you can, go and do it the Gentleman, for you see he can't well come out himself: Truly forsooth, say she, I can't indeed, for I made my water but just now in our back Kitchln.* Which set them all a laughing, and the poor Girle a crying; but the Gentleman gave her six pence to pacifie her: *Iribatum est.*

## 120.

A confident Fellow said, when he was at such a Town, there they did praise him very much; *Pub, says t'other, if thou gett'st any praise, it must be by blind or deaf men; for I never knew any man that either saw or ever heard any thing in thee worthy*

of praise , unless it be because thou art Master of all the Illiberal Sciences , and dost as liberally impart them to any friend or neighbour .

## 121.

Another Fellow said he was taken in such a place for a wise man , Truly , says another , I know not what they say , but this I can say , that among fools thou art taken for a wise man , but among wise men thou art known to be a fool ; and art call'd Goodman-wise-acre by all that truly know thee .

## 122.

A Humorous Countrey Knight gave his Man that waited on him this Charge , that he should never say any thing to him but what he askt him ; a little after he invited two Gentlemen to his Childs Christening , his Man accordingly went to 'em , and acquainted them with it , they bid him thank his Master , but to let him know they were præ-ingaged , and could not come that day ; and the Knight stay'd an hour later than ordinary for their coming , but seeing they came not , he askt his Man if he had spoke to 'em ? Yes , say he , but they said they could not come : You Rogue , says he , why did not

you

you tell me so before? Why truly Sir, says he, because you did not ask me.

## 123.

A simple pragmatical Coxcomb, that had long loved a young Gentlewoman, and she could never endure him, and seeing her at a Ball with a fine feather in her head, told her that night that nothing was lighter than a feather; Yes, says the Gentlewoman smartly to him, I know something that is lighter than a feather. What's that? faith he. Why faith, says she, thy wit. Truly, says he, your conceit is light-headed now.

## 124.

An old Fellow, that would seem young, told a man that his Wife had a Child at Fourscore and ten. How, says he, at Fourscore and ten years? No, says he, at Fourscore and ten quarters of the year. O, says he, did you mean so; but I thought you had meant years; and then I should have thought she might have been your Mother; but now I see you may well seem to be your Wives Father.

## 125.

A Parson in a Parish was thought to be more familiar than ordinary with a Woman who had Ten Children, and she told

told her Husband that Nine were his and no more. Well, says he, I never denied the Clergy their due, and will not begin now to break that Custom; for I'll keep the Nine and give the Tenth for his Tithe, as being rightly due to him.

## 126.

A man was saying, That such a man had an ill opinion of him. O Sir, says another, there's your mistake; for I'll assure you he stands well in his own conceit. By my troth, says a third, so he had need, for he stands so in no body's else but his own.

## 127.

A Bishop, in the times of Superstition, going his Visitation, and coming to a Town where they had newly builded their Steeple, and put their Bells out to be new cast, the Bishop coming near and hearing no Bells to ring, askt one of the Townsmen in a fume, What have you no Bells in your Steeple? No my Lord, says he: Then, says the Bishop, you had best sell away your Steeple. Why so my Lord? says he: Because, says the Bishop, it stands void. Truly my Lord, says he, we had better sell away another thing in our Church. What's that? says the Bishop: Truly my Lord 'tis our Pulpit; for I'll assure

sure your Lordship we have not had a Sermon in it these seven years, nor I think never shall; but our Bells I am sure we shall have suddenly.

## 128.

Says a Fellow, that had lost one of his Ears at Newcastle, for no goodness 'tis thought; when one told him a Story, Tis in at one ear, and out at t'other. By my troth, says the other, then there's a great deal of wonder in the travel of those tales; for thy two Ears be two hundred miles asunder.

## 129.

Says a mad Fellow, Tis credibly reported that the Devil's dead, I wonder who shall inherit his Land? O, say a man (that it seems had a very good woman to his --- Wife) that shall my Wife; for I am sure she is the nearest a kinne. The Devil she is, says t'other.

## 130.

Two Scholars in the University, the one a great Eater, and the other a small, says he that eat least, This small diet will make us good Scholars. Tis true, says t'other, and this thin Dinner will make me study indeed, that is, to make me study to get more meat, when this is gone.

131.

A Widdow in *Norwicb* did desire a Gossiping Neighbour of hers to get her a Husband, not for any carnal desire she had, but only to look to her Estate; which I find too great and troublesome to look after my self: and about three dayes after the Woman came and acquainted her that she had provided her a very good husband, that was rich, discreet, and very industrious, but only wants you know what; which I am sure you regard not as you told me before. *Why truly, says she, these are all very good qualities, yet I would not have him to lack any thing, that if we chance to fall out may make us friends agen.* By which you may understand that her Gossip lost her three days labour.

132.

There being a famous Weather-cock upon a great Cathedral Church, one said that that Weather-cock had more wit than any man whatsoever; for they die all for lack of wind, but the wind is still in his Beak: which a Countrey maid hearing, that was passing by with a couple of Hens to sell at the Market, said, *'Twas a brave Weather-cock indeed;* and he

he, with his companions, thinking to chouse her of her two Hens, told her, if she would but lend them her two Hens, they would carry them to that Weather cock to tread them, and then the Brood will never die; and she should have some of the Chickens when they are hatch'd. *No*, says she, *then they will be call'd Weather-chickens; and then they will never breed; for you know our weather Sheep has never any Lambs, being all indeed gelt.*

## 133.

A Man chiding his Wife, told her, *That she could call nothing hers, but her Ring, Fillet, and Hair-lace, nay her very Breech was none of hers*: Which the good and harmless Woman understanding, one night let something drop into the Bed, which he having found out by the smell, askt her what was the cause of her so doing? She told him, *That whilst she thought her Breech hers, she had a command over it; but being his, she could not rule another Bodies body; Tar-box for that, dear Husband.*

## 134.

A little Boy being a cutting some Bread and Butter, says his Brother to him,

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Why did you not cut me some , when you were a cutting some for yourself , you Bastard you ? What , says he , d'ye call my Mother Whore , you Son of a Bitch . If I am the Son of a B.tch then you are a Whelp ; And so are you , you Puppy , says t'other .

135.

A Scholar coming home from Cambridge to his Father , his Father askt him what he had learnt ? Why Father , says he , I'll prove that this Capon is better than the blessing of God . How Zon , says he , come let's hear it ? Why thus , Father , says he , nothing you know is better than the blessing of God , and this leg of the Capon is better than nothing ; Ergo . Tarbox , thou meanest , says his Father . And well , and what else canst thou do ? Why , says he , I'll prove these two chicken to be three ; thus , here's one : Well , says his Father ; and here's another , that's two : Well , says he , and is not one and two three ? Well , says his Father , you have spoke very well ; here Wife , do thee take one , and I'll take t'other : and our Zon shall have the third , cause he found it out .

136.

A humorous and rich Ignoramus , did pretend much to speak conceited words ; and

and his usual word was , *I think so too.* So he askt a poor Gentleman one day ( that us'd to visit for a Diners sake ) how old he was ? He told him as old as his little finger ; and after he had paused a little while , *In troth , says he , I think so too ; for I must study long before I can find out your conceits :* Then the Gentleman told him , That such a Lord had done for him more than he deserved then says t'other *I think so to.* And another told me that I was a wise man but , says he , I know the contrary ; for I am a fool : *I think so too ,* says the Humourist. And another told me I was an Intruding Knave ; says t'other , *I think so too.* Well , says he , *I see you are good natur'd ; for whatsoever I think you thin* so too. *That makes you visit me so often , for the love I bear to you ; for I love your company better than — Than what ? Than my meat.* O , says he , *you have given me many wifes to day.* Why yes , says he , I hope you'll allow me as great a privilege as you do my Napkins ; for you see that they wipe you often.

137.

One Margaret did wonder how she came to be so fat , that eats but once a day

D S

day ; that is only one meal a day : and *that is all day long* : and one sleep serves her all night , *that is, all night she sleeps* ; thus fares it with our *Margaret* or great *Mare* : then it seems by this, that where she liv'd was a *Major Town*.

## 138.

A Man told his Maid that he fear'd she was with-child by him ; *Puh* , says she, *trouble not your self in that case, for you are not the first by half a score that has serv'd me so; and I was never with-child yet.*

## 139.

An honest hospitable Gentleman was telling a friend of his that he thought Mr. such a one loved him extreamly well , because he did very often come to his Table. *No*, says his Friend, *he loves your Roast Beef, Mutton, Veal, Venison, Snipes and Larks, not you, I'll assure you; and if you'll provide such fare for me, you may be confident I shall love you too.*

## 140.

After some Thieves had robb'd a Gentleman of a great deal of Money , a Watch , and Rings , and good Cloaths , that were in the Portmantua : *Sir*, says his Man (which was very ingenious) *must I give them the hundred pound in Gold which*

which is quilted in my Breeches to? Yes, says his Master, by all means; for they are very civil persons, and have eas'd me and my horses of a great deal of luggage and trouble. This is to let us see what happiness it is to have so good and discreet a Servant as his Man was.

## 141.

A Fellow in the County of Kent was so very poor, that he could not get Victuals to put into his Head; he began to despair, and took a Rope and went to hang himself; and as he was going to a Tree to do the Execution, he spied where some great Treasure was hid; which he immediately took away, and left the Halter in the place; and a little after the Owner of the Treasure came to take a view of it, as was his daily custom, and finding it to be gone, for very grief he takes the Halter and hangs himself; but I think he deserves to be hang'd agen, because he hang'd himself contrary to Law.

## 142.

A great and discreet Lady was one day disputing with a Physician, and askt him why he did alwayes prescribe either Asses or Goats Milk for one in a Consumption? For, says she, truly I think that the Milk

Milk of a Cow should be far better ; as having better flesh and better feeding , and always breeds better blood and humors . No Madam , say the Physician , I do not approve of your opinion by any means ; unless the Patient be a Calf .

143.

A Lady that was painted , desired a sober and discreet Gentleman , that she might have his advice in this ; for she had a mind to have her Picture drawn to the life . No Madam , says he , I would not by any means advise you to that ; for that would be but trouble and great charge to you : for really methinks Madam you are pi-ctured to the life already .

144.

One hearing a rich man discourse something weakly about his Land , and how much there was in free Soccage , and how much he held in Cappite ; then he askt him presently if his Wit was held in Capite ? He told him no . Then he askt him if he had not some Fee-simple held in Capite , which he did believe would descend to him and his heirs for ever ; for you know ket will after kin .

145.

One was telling his Friend that he would

would repent one day for wearing his Hair so long, unless he had a mind to be a Friar; for those which do wear long hair, are in the readiest way to enjoy bald Crowns, without the help of a Barber; and also would say, *You lov'd hunting, for there went the hair away.*

## 146.

A good sufficient man that liv'd in the Suburbs of *London*, amongst other things of his Estate, had a good large Field before, and then had newly purchased two Fields more; which made a Gentleman say that he had purchased *More-fields*.

## 147.

One meeting a mad Fellow that was drunk, askt him whither he was going? says he, *I am going to the Tavern*. No, says t'other, that you are not; for Drunkenness is the way to hell, and thither you are going. Pub, says the Drunkard, you are therein much mistaken; and I ne'r fear that, for I am so drunk, that my legs are not able to carry me so far; and what need I go thither agen, for I came from the Devil (*Tavern*) but now.

## 148.

A man was telling very soberly to a  
Arc

Arch-wag that such a Venison Pasty was an excellent good one, and that he was very sorry it was eaten ; and could find in his heart to write an Epitaph upon it; then he told him that he must write his Epitaph in the House of Office, for there 'twas buried.

149.

A fair young Lady being upon occasion at the Assizes in *Oxford*, and seeing the Sheriff, who was a very fine young Gallant, to wait upon the Judge, that was an old man, to and fro, as there was occasion; her friend askt her, If she were put to her choice, which she had most mind to marry, the Judge or the Sheriff? She told him the Sheriff. *Why so?* says he. *Why truly,* says she, *I do confess I love judgment well, but I love execution much better.*

150.

A Gentleman hearing that a Fellow had called him Knave, by chance met him, and askt him, Whether he thought he was a Knave or not? Says the Fellow, *If I should say no, I should be very unmannly with your Worship.* *Why unmannerly?* says the Gentleman. *Truly,* says the Fellow, *because I am very unwilling*

ling to give a Gentleman of your quality the lie.

151.

A Justice of Peace told a Fellow that was brought before him, *That he'd teach him to steal.* Truly, says the Fellow, I give your Worship humble thanks for it, and am sorry that I was not acquainted with your Worship before; for if I had been well taught, I should have stollen with more discretion, than to have been apprehended in such a foolish manner as I was. I apprehend you, says the Justice, d'ye jeer me. No Sir, says he, I was apprehended by the Constable before; you need not put your self to the trouble of doing that.

152.

In former times, when first they wore high-crown'd Hatts, every one began to spend their Verdicts on it: One said they were like Pyramids, a second like Sugar-loaves; but a third told them plainly they were like Close-stool-pans: and if the old Philosophers were alive, they'd wonder to see men put their Heads where their Tails should be; and therefore 'twas certain 'twas no new Fashion: but Hatts that came from their Predecessors, and so by consequence In-tail'd

tail'd Hatts ; and I think I ha't now.

153.

Some French men seeing a man standing stock-still in the High-way in the midst of the rain , they askt him why he stood so ? *Why*, says he , *d'ye think I am mad to ride in the rain as you do ? Why*, say they , *Ma foy y'are quite wet*. Indeed Gentlemen, says he , *y'are much mistaken* ; for *I will assure ye that I have never a dry thread wet about me : Nor a wet thread dry* , I'll swear ; says another.

154.

A confident Physician demanded money of another, for a Brother of his that was his patient, and had been dead many years before ; the Gentleman told him, Indeed that 'twas a work of Charity to visit the Sick (which did belong to his Profession ) but if he was in such haste, and so earnest for money , it were best for him to go and visit the Dead ; and then he might be confident he should never want money more.

155.

A confident bold Fellow at a *Nisi prius* in the Countrey , having a Trial then in Law , and fearing that the Trial would go against him, said to the Judge,

*My*

My Lord I do not desire your Sentence now, but only your Opinion at the present ; and I will wait upon your Lordship for Judgement at some other time. Well, says the Judge, if you'd only have my Opinion now , why then my Opinion is , That if you had had Judgement to be hang'd seven years ago, the Countrey would have been more quiet than now it is. Well my Lord , says he, if this be your Opinion , then your Judgment and mine does not suit at all ; so that I'll have nothing to do with you , but g<sup>t</sup> to another Judge.

## 156.

A Gentleman being at Dinner with some others with powdered Beef and Mustard , he having too much Mustard at one time on his Meat , made him shed tears in a plentiful manner ; then an old Gentlewoman askt him , Why he cried so ? He told her because his Grandfather died that day one and twenty years , and about that time a day . After Dinner , and the Gentleman gone , says the Gentlewoman's Maid to her Mistriss , that then waited at the Table , who was newly come out of the Countrey ; Truly forsooth Mistriss , says she , methinks that Gentleman that dined here , is a very good con-

condition'd man, as io be concerned so much for the death of his Grandfath'r, that did so many years ago.

157.

A Fellow being so drunk, that he was fain to be carried home on mens shoulders, as he was going, by chance he spied two men leading thorow the Street another Drunkard to his house also: when bursting out into a great passion, he said, *Is it not a shame that men should be so drunk as to be led home;* he pretty heart it seems was so drunk, that he did not know that he was carrying home himself.

158.

A Sea Captain desir'd of a Usurer to lend him 10*l.* till he came back, which would be about a Twelve-month. No indeed, says the Usurer, for you that can confine your self a whole year to the narrow compass of a Ship, will think your self at liberty, when you are in a large prison: Nonne paw Monsieur, nonne paw Monsieur.

159.

A modest Gentlewoman being compelled by her Mother to accuse her Husband of defect; and being in the Court, she humbly desired of the Judge, That

she

she might write her mind , and not to speak it, for Modesties sake : The Judge gave her that liberty , and a Clerk was presently commanded to give her Pen, Ink and Paper ; whereupon she took the Pen without dipping of it into the Ink, and made as if she would write ; says the Clerk to her , *Madam, There's no ink in your Pen.* *Truly Sir,* says she, *that's just my case , and therefore I need not to explain my self any further.*

## 160.

A crafty Fellow being extreamly in debt , and being threatned by his Creditors , That they would have him if he was above ground , got himself into a Cellar , and there lay with the Tapster ; and being reproved for so doing, he told them there's no fear of catching him there, because 'twas under ground ; and then they durst not break their Oaths , because they swore they would have him above ground.

## 161.

A Fellow being adjudg'd to lose his Ears for some notorious Crime , and being in prison , was visited ( though not sick) by some friends, three or four days before he was to suffer ; then the Visi-  
tants

tants fell into a dispute about the loss of his Ears. One said the Ears were to be cut off by the root, another said only the tip; and they grew so hot upon this argument, that they fell together by the Ears; which the prisoner seeing, intreated them to be patient, for he told them within a week he should be able to resolve them the doubt.

## 162.

An humorous ancient Gentleman was so much used to drink Burrage, Balme, Bugloss, and other sorts of Garden Herbs, in his Wine all the Summer, that when Winter came, and no Herbs to be had, he could not drink without putting a green Ribbon into the Glass; which no doubt but gave him satisfaction both in taste and smell.

## 163.

One asking at a Lords Table, who he thought was the first Inventor of Sallets? was answered Nabuchadonosor. No by gad no Sir, 'twas none of him. Why then 'twas Nabuchadnezzar, because he had fed seven years upon herbs; and so could by consequence the best distinguish them: and when he came to be a man agen, delighted still in eating of Sallets; which was his former food.

## 164. A

164.

A Glutton at a great Feast devoured more than all the rest of the Company, which made every body admire; and a Gentleman askt him, What rate he gave yearly for his Diet? He told 'em four-score pounds a year. *Faith, says a Country Farmer, I will table him for twenty pound a year, so he will but let me have his dung:*

165.

A very ingenioust person set his Bottles in a Bucket down in a Well, to cool the Wine, and coming two hours after, to draw them up again, espied his and his mans Image in the water, upon which he ran in for his Sword, swearing that the *Antipodes* were drinking up his Wine; but the man being as discreet as his Lord, told him that just as he went from the Well, one of them below ran away to fetch more company; which made me draw them up before you came back again; and as I pull'd, so did he at bottom pull; yet I was too strong for him, and got 'em up: *Well, says my Lord very discreetly, who'd a thought that these Antipodes had been so near us; nay I no sooner go to the Well, but one of 'em stares me*

me in tht face ; so that if I do but hold up my hand at him , he holds up his at me agen ; but I'll warrant 'em for catching any more of my Wine there agen . I am glad it was my fortune to find out their roguery first .

## 166.

The same person shew'd a Gentleman that was a friend of his a pure Water running from a Brass Cock , the Gentleman askt him from whence it came ? At which the ingenious Monsieur fell into a great laughter ; says a Gentleman by to him , *My Lord why d'ye laugh so ? Because* , says he , *this Gentleman askt me from whence this water comes , when he plainly sees like a noddie as he is , that it comes out of the hole of the Brass Cock there . Indeed Sir , says the Gentleman wittily , I beg your pardon , for you know (that has a Magazine of knowledge in your Brain ) that Nemo mortalium omnibus locis sapit .*

## 167.

Two Baboons being to be seen at their first coming to *London* , and abundance of Citizens and others did resort thither to take a view of them , and did heartily laugh at their ugliness , and the strange faces which they made ; which

a most motherly and very discreet woman being present, did sharply thus reuke 'em : *D'ye think you do well to laugh at strangers, who understand not your language; and if you were in their Countrey, you'd take it for a great abuse I warrant you, if they should laugh at you :* so that you see tis a great happiness to have one wise woman among the rest.

## 168.

Another discreet motherly woman also, being with her husband and other neighbours, invited to a Knights house, which was their Landlord in the Countrey ; and as they were going out of the Hall into the Parlor, there was a Jack-an-apes tied by a Chain at the Parlor door ; and as all the Tenants came in, he would have a pluck and fling at 'em ; which this worthy woman seeing, very discreetly askt the Usher of the Hall what that young Gentleman was, and what his name was ? He told her 'twas *Jack-an-apes* ; then she very mannerly coming to goin, makes a very reverend Curtchy, and says , *By your leave Mr. Jack-an-apes.* The Ape hearing her speak to him, began to chatter at her, and to pluck her more than all the rest ; at which she grew offended,

offended , and told him , let him be  
who he will , yet he was an ill-bred  
man thus to affront an honest woman  
who has been these Twenty years a Mid-  
wife in the Parish ; and my husband I  
have you to know was Constable with-  
in these three years : but the Knight told  
her , what he did was but in jest , and  
he should do't no more ; and so was re-  
moved from the Parlor door .

169.

A Lady said to Oliver's Wife , when he  
had newly made a Knight , How can  
your husband make a Knight , when he is  
none himself ? But , says she boldly , He  
is a Knight and shall be a Knight ; and he  
has dabb'd him so . O , says the new mar-  
ried Knight's Wife , if I thought dubbing  
would have made him a Knight , I could  
a dubb'd him myself ; and all the rest that  
were there did own what she said : for  
what need he have been at the charge of  
a Knights Fee ; when we can dubb 'em  
our selves , without any charges at all ;  
nay perhaps may get a Diamond Ring ,  
or some other Rarity sometimes , into  
the bargain : Tarbox for that to .

170.

A well-bred woman being above-  
stairs ,

stairs, and her well-tutor'd Son below, then she call'd to him and said, Come up my Bird. What Bird Mother? says this dutiful Son: Why Whores-Bird Sirrah, says she. By my troth Mother, says he, I think you never spoke truer in your life. Why Sirrah, says she, if that be true, then you are a Bastard. Why Mother, though I be a Bastard, yet I am shre you are not a Whore: For how can she be a Whore, when he is only a Bastard.

## 171.

A Woman going to her Husbands funeral with several of her Neighbours, a Man among them, which was of the Parish too, came and whisper'd her in the Ear as she was going to Church; which when the Company saw, they thought it was a business of some gread concernment; but indeed it was to wooc her. Sir, says she, I thank you very kindly for your good-will, and do like you well enough; and am very sorry also that you come too late: for I'll assure you I was made sure to another yesterday.

## 172.

A Man came to be confess by a Grey Friar, and among the rest of his iniquities, did confess that he had lain with a

E pretty

pretty young Woman. In what place? says the Friar: In a goodly Chamber, says he. Where there? says the Friar: In a soft Bed, says he. How long? says the Friar: Why all night long, says he; and each of us had brought in the morning an excellent Caudle, wherein was Ambergrecce: By St. Francis, says the Friar, thou wast well at ease.

173.

There's a Proverb, which says, The fair lasts all the year, said a Woman, but says her Husband, My dear I can't in this years fair, sell thee for fair. It may be so, says she; but I have the worst luck, for I can neither sell thee for fair nor foul. What's the reason of that Wife? says he: Why, says she, my Mother always told me, that no Cuckolds would off in a Fair; for she could never put off her Husband there: and yet she was as honest a woman as any in the parish, though I say it, that should not say it.

174.

It seem'd one Doll was brought before a Judge for some Crime or other, which all believed was true; yet they could not prove it: says one to her, Faith Doll how didst come off? Why, says Doll, I set a good

good face on't. By my troth, then says Jone, thou dost borrow it; for I am sure thou never hadst one of thy own. Says Doll, If I can have one for borrowing, what need I keep one of my own.

175.

A conceited Gentleman invited several of his Neighbours to a large Mutton Pie, at last he betid light himself to bring out his conceit, and instead of Mutton fill'd it full of grass; and when they came to open the Pie (having fasted a long time in expectation of it) there was nothing but grass in it; and on it was writ, All flesh is grass; and this was done at a Cooks in Grass-Church-street.

176.

There's an old Proyeth, That's a good Horse never stumbles. Faith then, says a man, I have an excellent one, for he never stumbles, but tumbles; and sometimes over and over; and I am so loth to lend him, because he is so free from stumbling; that I'll sooner lend him to my foe than my friend.

177.

God sends fortune to fools, said a Man to his Wife. No indeed, says his Wife, for

be

he made you a Fool; but 'twas I that gave you your fortune: which will send you to that place where the Devils can't come at you: For you know my dear husband, That all Cuckolds go to Heaven.

178.

A Scholar in Oxford was often sent to by a Citizen there for Money, which he pretended was due to him; and finding his answer not according to expectation, he took the boldness and went to him himself; and modestly said to him in private: Sir, There's some Money betwixt you and I. Say you so, says the Scholar, I pray where is it; we'll divide it if you please. Sir, says he, I have taken your word for it hitherto. Truly, says he, so you are like to do till you are paid.

179.

Another time he hired a Horse of an Oxford Man for Two Shillings a day, and did ingage that if the Horse came to any disaster, he would pay him the price of him; which he said was Six pounds; but after many sendings to and fro, it seems he did still remember to forget to pay him: and the Scholar having some occasion to go for London; was there met by a Baylis, who very ingeniously said

said to him: Sir, I Arrest you for a Horse; the more fool you, says he, do I look like a Horse. Why then, says he agin, I do Arrest you. Truly, says he, I thank you for that, for I am very weary with walking: Sir, says he, I do tell you that I arrest you for Money: Why I know that, says he, for you won't do it without Money I am sure. At last says he, You Bailiffs are very idle fellows. Why so, says he, because, says the Scholar, you are still Arresting; yet I must confess sometimes you take a great deal of pains in it.

## 180.

Jane, says a Man to a Woman, I'll give thee Ten Shillings if thou will not answer me with a lie: and when she had took it: Says he, tell me true is thy Husband a Cuckold or no: upon this she answered him never a word; and when he saw that he could not make her speak, he demanded his Ten Seillings again. Why, says she, did I make any lie to you. No, says he. Then, says she, I have won the wager, and thou art ne'r the neer for thy question. Then he swore he would never talk with that Woman again, that can revile a man in speech, and in silence beguile him.

181.

A Gentleman that used to be smart in his re-parties, once had in his Hat a very gallant and rich Knot, or Favour of Gold and Silver Ribbon; which some young Ladies had a mind to, if they could get it handsomely without begging of it; and so one of them said to him: Sir, you have a very fine Favour in your Hat; and so they said all. Pray Madam, says he to the first, tell me truly do you like it: Yes indeed Sir, says she. Why then, says he, if you had not likt it I would have flung it into the Fire, but since you say you do like it; I protest I like the better, and am reselved to keep it for your Jests.

182.

A Gentleman that had a great Wit, and well belov'd among the great ones, and therefore invited often among them; but it seems had a very sore Leg: he being at a Noble mans Table, greedily catch'd at a Goblet of Wine. Says my Lord to him, Prithee Jack drink it not, for 'twill hurt thy Leg. O my Lord, says he, take no care for my Leg, for I have care enough of that, for I always drink o'th' other side.

A. 182.

E. A.

183. A

183.

A Country Grasier inviting some friends of his to Dinner, bids his man fetch him the clouted thing ; you know what I mean well enough : So his man being very Well bred , very discreetly brought him the Clouted Shoone : *Why how now you puppy, says he, what do you dream ; eat thou the Clouted Shoone, fetch us the Cream.*

184.

A Man that had a Woman to his Wife that was not much tongue-tied, and for her other imperfections the Man was much troubled, told her plainly, that if he were to be married agen , he'd never marry a Woman agen with a Beetle Brow. *And I, says she, had rather marry a Man with a Beetle Brow than a Beetle Head.*

185.

One askt a Man where he liv'd? He told him he liv'd between Ludgate and Newgate. No, iays t'other, I don't believe that ; for you cannot live between 'em : because you must either live in Newgate or Ludgate , or no where. Truly , says he, I'd as live be no where as be there.

E 4

186. There's

*Keywood*

186.

There's no two things in the world so like, as eating of Cheese and reading of Books; for if there be ten in the room where they eat Cheese, one says 'tis too salt, a second too fresh, a third too hard, a fourth too soft, a fifth too strong of the Runnet, and a sixth says 'tis not strong enough for him; and another says 'tis as good as can be. So 'tis in reading of Books, one says 'tis too long, another too short, and a third 'tis of meet length; and a fourth says, 'tis crabbed, and a fifth 'tis very easie, and a sixth 'tis simple, and a seventh says such a Book has not been made a great while for goodness: so neither Cheese nor Books are good in all mens opinions.

187.

One was a saying also, That the Tapster and the Brewers Horse are both alike; for they both do draw Beer: but yet I must confess they do differ in this, That the Tapster draws Beer and drinks it; but the Horse draws Beer, but drinks none.

188.

A man that had been terribly troubled in

in Law-Suits ; went one day to Tyburn, to see the Execution, and then swore 'twas better to have to do with Tyburn than Westminster-Hall ; for there Suits hang half a year , but at Tyburn half an hours hanging ends all.

189.

A Simple Fellow, it seems, before some Women did let a crack behind , and then he brag'd and said , that he had a very good report behind his Back ; Tis true says another, thy Tail can talk indeed, and yet it knows no Letter ; for though thy Tongue can talk sweeter ; yet thy Tail can talk much better ; for that has more wisdom in telling a tale than thy Tongue , and commonly thy Back tale is very long ; and therefore every Body does desire to have an end of thy tale as soon as they can.

190.

As many Men sitting a drinking together , they were praising the Ale about England , as Margot Ale, and Hult Ale, and Cheshire Ale, and Lambeth Ale, &c. But one said there was in London to his knowledge , the best in all England , and yet says another , there's as good Ale in England as in London.

E S.

191. A

191.

A Man being very much diseas'd and weak, was bemoaning himself to his only Son, whom he lov'd very well. For ~~sack~~, says he, if I stand my Legs ake, if I kneel my Knees ake, if I go my Feet ake, if I lie then my Back akes, if I sit my Hips ake, if I lean my Elbowes ake. Why truly Father, says he, (like a good and dutiful Child) I advise you Father to hang your self for an hour or two, and if that does not do, then come to me agen.

192.

A Fellow seeing a Daw sit upon a Tree, swore that he'd immediately charge his Birding-piece and shoot her, if she would sit; Says another to him, if she sit, she's a Daw indeed, but if she do not sit, then thou art a Daw, to put thy self to so much trouble and charge.

193.

Two Men were vapering what they coul'd do more one than t'other; at last one said, Sirrah I can do more than thee: indeed, says t'other, I believe it, and I must yield to him, for he can kiss my Belly behind, which I cannot do. Well then says t'other, then I am the bravest Fellow, for I can do more than you.

194. An-

194.

Another Fellow was accused it seems  
(and not undeservedly) for perjury, but  
yet they could not prove it; but says  
one, *Will you swear to any thing you don't  
see?* Yes good-man puppy, says he, that  
I will, for I can swear that I have a hole  
behind, but I can't see it.

195.

A Simple Fellow, whose name was  
*Medcalfe*, was seen to cast a Sheeps eye  
at his Mistress, which I thought very  
preposterous; for is it not a strange thing  
to see a Sheeps Eye to be cast out of a  
Calves Head.

196.

A Deaf Man was selling Pears at the  
Townes end in St. Gileses, and a Gentle-  
man riding out o'th Town, askt him  
what twas a Clock? He said Ten a penny  
Master: Then he askt him agen what  
twas a Clock? He told him indeed he  
could afford no more. You Rogue, says  
he, I'll fight and kick you about the streets:  
then says the man, Sir, if you won't an-  
ther will.

197.

A Gentleman finding that a red Nos'd  
Gentleman was very much addicted to  
the

the trade of Robbing , did earnestly advise him to the contrary : First , for fear of being discovered and taken , which would be a discredit unto him and his Family : and the Second , That if he came before a Justice only upon suspicion of Murther , his very Face would hang him , it lookt so bloody ; and wilt also say , when it has no pale about it , that tis desperate to .

## 198:

A Country Fellow told his Wife that he started a Hare in his Ground ; and I can , says he , after to catch her , and the Devil was in her I think , for she out ran me , though I was Ten times bigger than her ; for she was no bigger than the Calf of my Leg . Well Husband , says she , if ever you catch him there agen , mark which side his head lies , and hold your hat just against it , and then make a great noise , and I'll warrant you she runs into your Hat . Say you sa , says he , then I am sure I shall ha't . O , says he , these Women are pertinate wits .

## 199.

A Man in the North having been to Christen a Child , being something in Drunk , he was askt whether it was a Boy

Or a Girl? Indeed, says he, I can't tell. Then they askt him the name, For, says he, I have forgot that too, if it had one; but I well remember I heard the Minister talk of Creeds and Commandments, and such kind of things, which I never heard of before; and that made me not mind it at all: Why had the Child no name then? Troth, says he, I can't tell that neither.

200.

A Woman when she gave her Grand-Child her Blessing, would always bid her bestow her Maiden-head well; and one day being a Milking, a neighbours Son of hers passed by, being a handsome young man, and askt her what he should give her for her Maiden-head? she told him her Grand-mother bid her not sell it, but bestow it well. Why, says he, you can't bestow it better than upon me: So she being very good natur'd, let him have it; and being come home, told her Grand-mother what she had done: Out you Jade, says she, I did not mean so; but since he has got it, I charge you on my Blessing to go back agen to him and fetch it, for no Man will marry you if your Maiden-head be gone: So she came back and told him what her Grand-mother said (for I d'  
*have*

have you to know , says she, that she is an understanding woman ) which made him seem much troubled : Nay , nay , says she , I must have it ; and then he like a good natur'd fellow , gave it her agen ; which it may be some other men would not have done .

201.

A Gentleman that was not accounted a Philosopher , and a Man of slow speech also , had a very great desire to be dabbling with a pretty Young Woman that was a Vintners Widdow , who was a Woman of a smart wit : Then he call'd for a bottle of Sack , and sent for her , but she came not , and another but she came not ; but after Three Bottles up she came ; and having with Two or Three more with her , sitten a pretty while with him , he askt what was to pay ? answer was made an Angel : That's Ten Shillings in our Country , says she : Methinks , says he , the word Angel had been better , because it came from you : Come Sir , says she , since you say so , we'll have some mirth before we part . Then she told e'm there was a Creature that spoke but once , and when it died it went neither to Heaven nor to Hell : he could not tell the meaning

meaning of it, then she told him it was  
Balaam's; for as Angel opened his  
mouth, but I think we must have Two  
Angels to open yours, and I am sure  
here's but one Angel in yet: Come Boy  
give us more Sack, which will be the  
only way to bring in the other Angel  
to open his mouth.

202.

A Man and his Wife, that formerly had  
liv'd well together, grew to be poor,  
and both of 'em lov'd the Pot well, and  
it happened that a friend of hers met her  
and gave her Six. Pence; so she came  
home with joy to her Husband, saying  
to him, What shall we have my dear Hus-  
band, for we are rich now: Wife, says he,  
'tis your own, do what you will with it: Why  
then, says she, let me see wee'll have, stay  
we will have, now I think on't, a Groats-  
worth of Bread and Two pence Drink; do  
what you will sweet-heart, says he, 'tis your  
own. Then she goes out of doors and  
comes back agen, saying, No, now I think  
on't Husband, wee'll have Four penny-  
worth of Drink and Two pennyworth of  
Bread: Do what you please, says he,  
Sweet-heart 'tis your own: Out she goes  
agen, but comes in presently: O Hus-  
band,

band , says she , now I think better on't ;  
I am resolv'd to have Five penny worth  
of Drink , and a penny in Bread : Do what  
you please my dear , says he , for 'tis your  
own : Then out she goes and comes im-  
mediately back agen : I am now fully re-  
solv'd to have it all in Drink , and beg a  
Toft of them . O dear Wife , says he , now  
thou hast won my heart for ever : Come I'll  
give thee a bus' , but be sure to let us have  
it , quick , quick , quick you Rogue : Well  
Sweet-heart , says he , how happy it was  
that thee wentest out too day .

203.

A Gentleman lately walking in the  
Strand , was followed by a lusty begger ,  
who crav'd his benevolence ; he told him  
he'd give him nothing ; still he urg'd him ,  
he bid him be gone , and trouble him  
no more , then he importun'd him the  
more . Sirrah , says he , you Rogue , I'll  
not give you a Farthing . Pray-Sir , says the  
Fellow , let me speak but one word to you ;  
What's that ? says he , That your worship  
would but procure me a Whore . Why you  
Rogue , says he , do I look like a Pander :  
No Sir , says he , but there's a Wise Man  
has said , that a Whore will bring a Man  
to a morsel of Bread , which I should be glad  
of .

if; for I profess Sir I have seen none these three days. Which conceit of his procur'd him a Shilling, and then the Gentleman went away. Well, says the fellow, I see that a Whore has a great influence upon some Men, when but the name of a Whore has now got me a Shilling; I did love 'em pretty well formerly, but now I shall love 'em the better as long as I live.

## 204.

A Noble Man once told his Fool that if he could but tell him what Sir John Falstaff's Christen Name was, he'd settle Eight Pound a Year upon him for his Life, and he should marry the Dairy Maid, who he lov'd dearly: Woo't E-salsh Lord, says the Fool, I that I will, says the Lord: Swear it Lord, swear it, says he, I protest I will, says my Lord: Well stay a littl: then; says he, Sir John, what says he, why Sir John Falstaffs Christen name: Nay, says my Lord, I'll tell you farther, his name is Falstaffe, and he was Christned John; now tell me what Sir John Falstaffs Christen Name is. And after he had walkt Two or Three times about the Room, my Lord urg'd him to tell him: Prithee Lord, says he, tell me his Name once again; why his Name was

was Falstaffe , and he was Christned John,  
Now tell me his Christen Name ? At last  
after half an hours pawsing : Now Lord  
I have it , I have it , says he ; for I can tell  
what Sir John Falstaffs Christen Name was ,  
and shall I have Eight Pound a Year ? Yes ,  
and Doll to , I that thou shalt , I protest , says  
he , agen . Why then , says he , bear wit-  
ness , for I have hit on't now : Sir John  
Falstaffs Christen Name was , he was  
Christened Sir John Falstaff : Look you there  
you Rogues , who's a Fool now : Hey for  
Doll , O brave Doll , she's mine own , I'll  
go and buss her now , for she's mine own  
you Rogues .

205.

A Drunken Fellow one night was ta-  
king a Pipe of Tobacco , and being so  
reeling ripe , he could not hit the Can-  
dle with his Pipe to light it , which he  
finding , took up the Candle in his hand ,  
and at last put the Pipe into the Candle-  
stick instead of the Candle , and then  
put the Candle into his Mouth instead of  
the Pipe ; and after he had suckt a pret-  
ty while , and finding no smoke come ,  
but the sweet Tallow melting in his  
Mouth , he swore a great Oath that  
the Pipe-maker had not burnt it ; for  
'twas

'twas perfectly Clay still ; and therein he said true ( for how could the Candle be burnt when it was whole and unburnt) and this Rogue Pipe-maker, says he, has also forgot to make a hole in it too ; *A pox an't*, says he, *I might a sudd<sup>t</sup> l<sup>t</sup>ng enough* ; and so flung it away.

206.

A Country Fellow coming into London, had a broken Groat in his pocket, and came to a Goldsmiths Shop, and putting off his Hat very low, did desire of the Prentice that he would give him a little piece of Silver as big as a Hazel Nut, to solder it agen, *and when you come into our Country*, says he, *I'll give you a piece of Lead shall be ten times as big* ; the Prentice told him he had something else to do : *What a pox*, says he, *de'y keep open shop for*, if you won't part with any of your goods : Says t'other, *my goods will prove but bad*, *if I shou'd part with 'em in this manner*.

207.

A company of merry wags were got together at a Club, among which were bandied so and so many smart repartees, but one among the company, that thought himself a great wit, and indeed I think

so

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so to ; for one askt him very seriously, whether he thought he was his own Mothers Son ? Truly , says he , Gentlemen I am not certain, but I believe I am ; for you know , that are wits , 'tis a hard question : Then he was askt by another, whether he thought he was his own Fathers Son ? Faith , says he , I can't well tell ; but for ought I know I am : for how can I be sure of that . Upon which they all fell a laughing : Why Gentlemen , says he , very discreetly , 'Tis a Wise Child that knows his own Father .

## 208.

Two Citizens Wives seeing several Lords , Knights and Gentlemen passing by , which they knew very well ( but I don't mean as Eve knew Adam ) their dispute was , which was the handsomest Gentleman in the Company ; says one of them , pointing to a Lord , Methinks that is t he handsomest Gentleman . Then the other laugh'd at her heartily : Why d'ye laugh ? says she , why , fays t'other , he's a Lord , I meant the handsomest Gentleman : 'Tis true indeed , says she , no Lords are Gentlemen . But you must believe this was in Oliver's days .

## 209. An

209.

An Old Woman that had never seen a Jack-a-napes in her Life before , and coming to Bedford to the Market , saw one riding on a Dogs Back , and the Dog running away with him : Says she, *I am afraid that Young Gentleman will fall by and by, he rides so fast ;* and when she saw he did not , then she cri'd out, *Well rid Young Gentleman , well rid Young Gentleman ; in truth he's a good Horse Man.*

210.

A Drunken Fellow in the Streets met with an ancient acquaintance of his , and desired him to lend him an Angel , and I don't doubt but I shall pay you within a month agen ; he askt him how? he told him he had a great swelling in his Neck , and he hoped it was the Kings-Evil ; which if it were , then the King would give him an Angel , with which he would pay him.

211.

An Old Man bringing his Son to be catechized at *Easter* . the Minister thought the Old Man needed more instruction than his Son , and askt him who made him ? the Old Man he had forgot 'twas so long since he was made ; says the

the Minister, 'Tis a shame for you at these years to let your Child know more than your self : I think so indeed, says he, for he was but lately made, and 'tis above Four-score Years since I was made. Well, says the Minister, how many Commandments are there? He said he thought about Four or Five : Fie, says the Minister, there's Ten. Fair b', says he, I thought you'd bring 'em to Ten ; because you'd have the Tithe : Why Old Man, says the Minister, I tell thee again there's Ten : Why then, says he, there's a goodly company of them. Well Friend, says he, how many Sacraments are there? Why, says the Old Man, there's Four. Which are they? says the Minister : Why, says the Old Man, there's Christ-mass, Easter, Whitsuntide and our Wake. And so went out a-doors, as taking it for an affront to be catechized at that age ; and well he might, for you see he understood well enough what he said.

212.

A Notorious but Cunning Thief, being arraigned before a Judge for a great Crime, the Judge askt him what answer he made to his Accusation : Truly my Lord, says he, I find 'tis a foul matter, and I desire to hear no more on't ; for which be-

being reproved for his impudent saw-cinels; he swore he would bind the Judge to the Peace, because he stood in fear of his Life by his means: Well, says the Judge, you shan't sleep in peace to night for that conceit: and so commanded he should be laid in Irons. Pray my Lord, said he, let me go about my business, for I never wrong'd you in my Life, and therefore you have nothing to do with me, for I am going to receive same money to pay my Debts; for I owe my Landlord and several others a great deal of Money, and they'll arrest me as I go by in the Cart; and I would willingly pay debts before I am hang'd, and I think that's the part of an honest man; though it may be you don't think so.

213.

Another time a Thief was going to the Gallows out of the Town, near Norwich, and a many Boys was running to see the Execution; which he seeing, call'd to 'em: saying, Boys you need not make such haste, for there will be no sport till I come; what says a man, is there but one to be hang'd, I'll go home agen: D'ye hear Friend, says he, you need not go home, for if you like it so well, pray come and supply my place, for I can

*can afford you a good penny-worth on't,*

214.

A Witty Fellow, that was Clerk to Two Justices of Peace in *Olivers* days, that for a bribe us'd to help Delinquents at a dead list; and being once speaking of the Two Justices, he said one was the craftiest and subtlest fellow in the World, but the other an arrant Dunce, and said he had as much a-do to conceal a business from the one, as to make the other understand it.

215.

A Protestant that in dispute did confute all the Papists that did endeavour to pervert him; but when they saw that would not do, they thought by giving him great promotion twould then do, and then gave him a Bishoprick, which he accepted on, and so became theirs. A little after this, a Jesuite meeting a Protestant Minister in the Street, said to him, Now you see the excellencies of our Religion, that has converted the most knowing Person of your side: O, says the Minister, rather you may think that our Religion surpasseth yours in value and worth, because you were fain to give boot, nay, you were forc'd to spur him up to't to,

217. A

218.

A Gentleman intending to dine and be merry with some others, did bespeak a Leg of Pork well powdered against such a day; and the poor heart spared no Salt upon it, and made it so Briny, that it would have fir'd a Pâllat of Ice: and the day being come that they should eat it, the Gentleman that bespoke it, cut a piece, and put a bit on't in Mouth, and immediately spit it out agen, and threw the Dish and Pork against the ground. The Company that had kept their Stomachs for that Pork all that day, askt him the cause why he did so? *Why, says he, I bid the Salt Bitch corn me a Leg of Pork well, and she has brought in a Limb of Lots Wife: Truly Sir, says she, I gave it but a little Salt, but I must confess I bought the Hog of a Man of Saltwich, where it seems it was bred and born; and I think that is the chiefest cause of its saltiness. D'ye see, says he, how this Bitch does bring in a Witch to excuse her self.*

219.

A Discourse rose at a Dinner among some Merchants, about their loving Wives; and one said his Wife was

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the most affectionate Woman in the World , and for the evidence of it , he had often heard her swear ; Nay when ever I rose out of the Bed in a Morning before her , she would always convey her self into my warm place ; so much she lov'd the very heat and impression I had made : Puh , says a wag to him , this that you evidence is an infallible token against you , for it seems she lov'd your room better than your company .

## 220.

A Country Woman sent her Son Three or Four Miles off to her Landlords House with a New-Years Gift upon New-Years day , where the Boy was never before ; and being in the Kitchin , he there saw a Dog turning of the Spit , which was it seems a strange thing to the Boy , so he stood loytering to stare upon that and other fine things which he saw there , that he staid it seems longer than ordinary ; for which his Mother beat him lustily when he came home : O Mother , says he , if you had been there , you would have stay'd as long as I , for it would have done your heart good to see how a Dog in a Wheel did spin Roast-meat : Nay Mother he did reel too , that is when he was weary , which was much

much Mother to see a Dog spin and reel ;  
I am sure 'twas more than our Maid Joan  
could do when she come to you first. Now  
Mother I hope chhave sartified you, and  
when I go thither agen, if I should stay long,  
pray Mother don't beat me agen.

## 221.

A Ridiculous and Impudent Fellow ;  
being laught at by all that came into  
his company , told 'em he had a certain  
quality , which was to laugh at all that  
laught at him : *Faith* , says one of his  
Companions , *then thou liv'st the merriest*  
*life of any man in Christendom* ; for I ne-  
ver saw any man that ever came in thy com-  
pany but laught at thee : Why then , says  
he , *I hope I please 'em if they laugh so*  
*heartily, and those that please are best lik'd of.*

## 222.

A Country Gentleman, that was a boon  
Companion , sent his Man to take him  
a House in the Suburbs of London ; and  
after he had wandered about sufficiently,  
he read this Bill on a door : *Here's a*  
*House to be let , with a Dining-Room ,*  
*Kitchin , and Sixteen Chambers and two*  
*Cellars, ready furnished.* Upon which he rode  
down in haste to his Master with great  
joy , and told him he had an excellent

House for his turn , and with Two Cellars full of good Liquors. The Man thinking the word *furnished* , did relate to the Two Cellers and not to the House.

## 223.

An English Man that had a brave Horse that did shew most excellent tricks, almost to the amazement of every body; and being shewing the tricks of his Horse at *Paris in France* ; they seem'd so strange to the French , that they told him in plain terms 'twas not done without the help of the Devil; and the Monks and Fryers caused him to be apprehended for a Conjuror : then he desired he might send for his Horse and he would convince them of their error : The Horse being come , he bid one of the Fryers hold a Crucifix to him ; which was no sooner done, but the Horse kneeled down before it , which made them marvel and say, *The Beast was inspired*; and not only releast him, but feasted him and his Horse, and gave him a gratuity and great commendations besides. And might not he then say , *God-a-mercy Horse.*

## 224.

A Drunkard having but one of his Eyes left with Drinking, was warned by Physicians

icians to leave off tipling, or else he'd  
lose the other Eye also : *Faith*, says he,  
*I care not if I do ; for I do confess ingeni-  
ously I have seen enough, but I have not  
frank enough : Ergo.*

225.

Another reverend Drunkard having spent about Fifteen hundred Pounds a year in Drink, nay, was so much addicted to it, that he counted all those his enemies that did perswaded him against it; yet one took the boldness upon him as to upbraid him for such extravagancy. *Puh*, says he, *what you burst in at one Ear goes out at t'other*: *Nay, I'll tell you more than I am perswadid you know*, for *I also have spent above Ten thousand pounds in ready Cash in Drink besides*, and yet *I have not drink enough Boys*. *For Drinking that will make one fat and brisk as Cat, or Mouse, or Rat, and when I ha't -- it makes me chatt, -- like little Bratt, that sits on the Matt.*

226.

An Old Man being to swear in a Cause before a Judge , the Judge bid him beware that he did not forswear himself ; and told him if he did , he might be confident the Devil would have

him: *Truly, my Lord,* says he, *I hope the Devil will have nothing to do with me, for I have given him my Eldest Son already; and I hope he will content himself with him, for I think one out of a Family is enough for him;* then the Judge bid him explain himself more clearly: *Why truly my Lord,* says he, *I have made my Eldest Son a Lawyer, for I believe that all of that Profession goes to the Devil;* for the Devil himself you know it is said has been a Lawyer from the beginning: *A Lyer you mean,* says the Judge: *Why, says he, a Lawyer and a Lier is all one I hope, or else we are all mistaken in our opinions.*

## 227.

A Mayor of a Town in this Kingdom, that had been a Cavalier, and when the King was restored, began a health to the King upon his Knee, purposely to fetch a Fanatick Alderman down upon his: but the Alderman (being a crafty man) contrary to all mens expectations, pledg'd it with seeming zeal on both his knees; at which the Mayor wonder'd (and was much concerned that he did not begin it on both his Knees also) and askt him why he did not do as he began it, on one Knee, but must do

it

it on both Knees : Why truly Mr. Mayor, says he , one Knee was in Honour of the King , and the other was to ask God forgiveness for so doing : What, says he, d'ye ask God forgiveness for doing the King honour : No , says he , not for that, but because I pledg'd a health on that on which I confess I ought to pray on.

## 228.

Divers French Courtiers passing over the New Bridge at *Paris* in *France*, spied a blind Man a begging there , with the Balls of his Eyes so fair , that they thought him a counterfeit ; then an Earl among them, being indeed a Bastard to a great Prince there , said he would try the experiment ; for if he can see he must needs know me , for I do daily pass by here ; upon which he went immediately to the Begger , and pull'd him by the Nose , at which the Begger roar'd out , and call'd him bastardly Rogue : Look you there now , says he , did not I tell you he counterfeits ; he could never have known me else. But the Count was much mistaken , for the Begger was really blind , and that word Bastard was a common word which he had daily in his mouth to every one that did affront him , as you see this Count did, F 4. 229. There's

## 229.

There's a University in *France*, where any Man may proceed Doctor for Money, though he be utterly unlearned: It hapned that an ignorant *German* came thither, and having (for his better progress in his degree he hop'd to take) invited the Doctor of the Chair to Supper, the *German* being a little Fluster'd, askt the Doctor if he would take Money to make his Horse a Doctor too? Yes, says he, *I may make a Horse a Doctor as well as an Ass*, and so by consequence *your Horse as well as your self*.

## 230.

A Gallant being a Suitor to a Rich Widdow, when ever he went to wait upon her in the Country where she liv'd, he would hire one Man or other to wait upon him thither, and never came twice with one Man; at last the Gallant being to go into the West, came to take his leave of the Widdow, and when he had done, *I pray Sir, says she, give me leave to take my leave of your Man too*: he askt her what she meant by that? O, says she, there's more reason that I should take my leave of him than of you, for happily I may see you agen,

but

but I am confident I shall never see your Man  
agen : Why, Widdow , says he , this is a  
great mistake in you now , for these that  
have waited upon me hither , are all my  
own Servants that I keep at Board wages ,  
purposely to attend me and look to Horses ;  
and the reason why I brought not one Man  
twice , was because thou shouldest see that  
I was a Man of fortune came to woe thee , by  
keeping so many Servants as I do ; and when  
we are married , my dear Widdow , then thou  
shalt see them altogether , and not before :  
Well Sir , says she , I believe you say  
true -- ly .

## 231.

Two Gentlemen standing together , a  
very beautiful Woman pass'd by , upon  
which one of them said , There goes the  
handsomest Woman that ever I saw . She  
hearing him , turned back , and seeing  
him very ugly , said , Sir I would I could ,  
in way of requital say as much by you :  
Fait 's , says he , so you may and lie as I did .

Here followeth some probable Stories told by several Persons in a Room together.

232.

A Gentleman in Northwales was standing in a Sun-shiny day, upon a high rock near the Sea-side in those parts ; and as he was looking about, he saw an Island some Four miles from the shore or thereabouts, upon which Island he spi'd two Hares playing one with another : Well, says he, *are you got over there now ; for I am sure I cours'd you both yesterday with my two Greyhounds, and then you shew'd me a trick ; but now I'll shew you one.* So he went immediately home, and fetcht his two Greyhounds, and a great Morter-piece which he had of a Thousand pound weight, which he fastned between the two Dogs Necks, but he was forc'd to fasten a Cord to it also, least the Dogs might a run away with it ; and when they had carry'd it to the Rock aforesaid, he charg'd the Morter-piece, and presently the two Greyhounds slipt into it ( for it seems they had been used to it ) which two Greyhounds

hounds he ram'd in very well, and then discharg'd the Morter-piece , with no hurt at all to the Grey-hounds , ( for you must know he shot with White Powder ) and it so hapned ( that says he, *I protest t'ye Gentlemen, upon my honest word and credit 'tis true* ) that the two Grey-hounds each lighted upon a Hare as they were playing, and then kill'd 'em; and immediately left the Island , and swam through the Sea with the Hares in their Mouths , which were one boild and t'other roasted for my Dinner. Then one askt him what colour his Grey-hounds were? He swore they were both black before, but the White Powder did so change their colour, that they were both turn'd grey ; and so from them all of their kind were call'd Grey-hounds, for their sakes, to this day. They told him they thought this probable enough to be improbable : *O Gentlemen* , says he, *far be it from me to tell you a lie* , for if you won't believe me , pray ask the two Dogs.

## 233.

Another was saying that once upon a time, it was his fortune to be in *Hide-Park*, where he saw several Races run ; and at length, says he , I undertook to run

run a Race with my little Galloway Nagg , with another of that size ; a Race of a mile long for Five Pound : and just as we were riding with full speed, he that rode with me was on the right hand , and so past by the Coach, but my poor Galloway seeing he could not pass for the Coach (and being a cunning Jade , and unwilling that his Master should lose ) for if he did , he thought he should fare the worse for it at night ; presently cast me off his back, and leapt quite thorow the Coach himself ( notwithstanding it went a great pace ) but it was done so nimbly and so dextrously that all admired , and so well twas ordered , that just as he came thorow the Coach, when he came out , he catcht me directly upon his back agen , on the other side of the Coach ; and though 'twas done so hastily , yet the other got ground of us ; but my Horse so handled his Legs , that without Switch or Spur I won the wager. Now , says he, shew me such a Galloway Nagg in *England* agen : then they all told him 'twas very much , and more than they could have believed , if he had not told it.

234.

Another swore, that he in his Travels round about the World, which he had encompassed Three times and a half in Seven years time, but could not finish the other half, because he fell very Sick, and so was forc'd to return back agen; and in his return he came into a Kings Court, but I cannot for my life remember the place, because I have been in so many; and there, says he, I saw a Lute of a very great bigness, and Thirty Ells long, bating only three inches, and Three broad, and swore that the least String upon it was bigger than his Thumb: Then they askt him how it possibly could be plaid on? He told them that a Man and his Wife that were Gyants (of which there's abundance in that Country) had Two large Iron things, made each with Eight Feet like Gridirons, with which he and his dear Consort (which I think is the best name for her now) in regard of the Musick) scratt o're the strings, that is she on the Treble part, and he on the Base; whil'st Eight great Mastiff Dogs ran up and down the Frets of the Lute, with their bare Feet, and stopt directly in tune  
as

as they plaide (but you must conceive that these Dogs were bred up to't, or else 'twere a thing impossible,) to the admiration of all strangers that were there; and the Case of that Lute serv'd for a Kennel for the Eight Dogs to lie in: but it seems 'tis common with them there, for they made nothing of it: and this he made good by whole volleys of thundring Oaths.

## 235.

Another Gallant swore likewise (for it seems they were all guilty of swearing to confirm their stories, or else 'tis possible that few of them would be believed) that as he was a fishing in *Germany* in the great River *Rhine*, where he saw an infinite number of Fish of all sorts, and a Fisher of that Country which I saw draw up with his Net an Eele, that was far bigger than the May-pole in the *Strand* at the bottom, which they at first thought to be a lie; and when he had occasion to go into the Yard, they askt his Man, who indeed was very sober and discreet, whether it were true of the Eele, to be as big as the May-pole in the *Strand* at bottom: Truly Gentlemen, says he, I then stood nearer than

than my Master , which makes him a little mistake , for I think in good truth it was scarce so big , but swore , that it was full as long . This made them cry him up with a Hum , and presently writ *Probatum est* : And good reason they had I think , because he had a witness to prove it there , which spoke as true as himself .

## 236.

Another, That in the Warsin *Germany* between the *Swedes* and them , there was so great a frost one Winter , that Two Men desiring to talk with one another , and one was on one side o' th River , and t'other on the other ; and as they spoke one to another , the Frost was so great , that it froze up their words , which was not audible then nor indeed (upon my reputation) could not be heard till Nine days after , when it chanc't to thaw : which one of the company hearing , said 'twas a brave Country to speak Treason in ; for whatsoever a Man said a Man could not be heard : Nay , the very lowings of the Bulls and Cows were froz'd up also , that the Owners had much ado to find them to fodder them , for want of hearing them

them as formerly. Nay, by your favour says another, there is another Country, which had as great a conveniency to speak Treason in as that had, from 1648 to 1660; and there one might speak any sort of Treason, and was never call'd to an account for it: Nay, the more Treason they spoke, they were the better esteem'd; so that there was no need of a Frost at that time in *England* for that use.

## 237.

A Woman accidentally coming into the Room where they were, and hearing them speak of that Frost in *Germany*, by some such stories; but when she saw the company began to scruple at the truth of it (which I wonder they did, if they consider but her following discourse) then she up and told them that her dear and loving Husband, peace be with him, was in that great Frost, out late one night, which truly Gentlemen I believe was the occasion of his death: though he lingers Fourteen or Fifteen years after it; he I say, riding that night, came to a Common, where were great store of very deep Cole-pits, insomuch that he fell down to the bottom in one of them, and

and his Horse fell directly upon him ; that it was impossible at that time of night, and in such weather, to be relieved in that great distress : and having lain so for a long time, and no hopes to be relieved at all, he presently thought himself, and immediately rose and went to the next Village, and there borrowed a Pickaxe and a Spade, and then came back with 'em to the Pit, and first digg'd out himself, and then his Horse, and so about Five a Clock in the Morning came home ; but so weary and so cold, that he could not unbutton his Doublet : Nay, says she, after I had hope him off with all his Cloaths, he was so benum'd, that I was forc'd to take a Warming-pan of hot Coles and so went all over his body, yet was he so cold that he scarce felt, though the Warming-pan sometimes stood a pretty while together in one place ; which truly Gentlemen I was fain to do for my dear Husband, which confirm'd them in the belief of it, that it was as true as any of the rest, and gave her thanks for it also : and so she made them half a dozen reverend courchys and bid 'em god-by.

238.

Another fellow said that he had heard all their stories , and did think at first that some of them had been untruths, but now, says he, I am better satisfied; and I will tell what I know upon my own knowledge : I was once in some company where I heard one of them say that to his knowledge a Raven would live a Hundred years : so the next day I went and bought me one , purposelly to make a tryal, and put him into a Cage and taught him to sing ; and I think in my conscience no Bird but a Raven could sing like him. Well , says he, I kept this Bird above a Hundred years ; nay , if I should say two hundred I should not lie ( and fed him all the time my self ) yet I could never make him speak as your Starling does for my life ; at last being very tame, I turn'd him out of the Cage , and put him into a Room , where I had only a Goose , but never a Gander for her : I know not how it hapned, but the Raven and the Goose fell in league together ( for you must know 'twas a Cock Raven ) and the Raven trod her , and she brought Ten Young ones , all coloured half

half black and half white , and those Five which were black towards the head , cri'd just like a Raven , and those that were white towards the head , cri'd like Geese ; and I eat one of the former , that was black towards the head ; and if you'll believe me , I have had ever since such a strange croaking in my stomach , especially if I chance to see any Carrion , that 'tis a great disturbance to me : Nay , One of my Neighbours upon some occasion call'd my Wife Carrion ; and though I did not love her before , yet ever since I have had a great kindness for her : Then they told him that the strangeness of this story made it true ; and the Proverb makes it good , that is , '*Tis not so strange as true.*

## 239.

Another of this crew came in with his story to , which they thought improbable , till he gave 'em evident demonstration of the truth of it , and that was this : He said he was one Winter about Seven years since in *Lincolnshire* , near the Fens , where there is always great store of all sorts of Wild Fowl , but especially of Duck and Mallard , which made me take my Gun , and when

I came near to a hedge, they were ver-  
ry thick a t'other side , upon which I  
presently discharg'd my Gun , and kill'd  
at on shoot Three hundred twenty five,  
and I think I wounded a great number  
also : then they wondred how he could  
kill so many at one shoot, he told them  
that there were near Four hundred little  
holes in the Barrel of his Gun , so big  
as Shot might easily pass through them ;  
and at the discharge of the Gun every  
Shot went out at its own hole , and  
kill'd so many as I told you I am certain:  
Nay , I had kill'd many more if they  
had lay a little closer : Then they askt  
him how he got 'em home , he told 'em  
he went home first and fetcht a Herrie  
which was loaded Three times home with  
them , besides what I carried on my  
Shoulders ; and they were all as fat as  
the driven Snow. They said 'twas ver-  
ry much indeed, and very many to be  
kill'd at one time.

240.

Another that had been a Souldier, and  
newly come from that great and long  
siege of *Ostend* , one askt him what  
news there ? He swore ther e was great  
want of Bread: But one day when some  
was

was brought in , he saw a lusty Souldier  
that was one of their Regiment,take up  
a Loaf ; and having a very large and  
sharp knife, he slic't quite thorow the  
Loaf ; and himself ( being eager at it )  
and two more Souldiers behind him ;  
and by that means we got their shares,  
and so fared the better : and to the con-  
firmation of it added some lusty Oaths :  
Nay,say they, we'll believe this,cause 'tis  
a well-bred story.

## 241.

A Gentleman that had bred up a Young  
Colt , and had taught him many pretty  
pieces of Activity , but one among the  
rest, that of leaping so well, that no  
Ditch or Hedg , though never so broad  
or deep , but he whipt over : nay , an  
ordinary House was nothing with him ,  
or small Country Church also , but yet  
could never leap over the Steeple. It  
fortun'd that the Gentleman having oc-  
casion to ride abroad on him , came to  
a River that was about Twenty yards  
wide , which you'll say was very broad ;  
yet this poor beast leapt with him to the  
very brink of the River on the other side ,  
and there by chance lighted upon a  
stump of a Tree , which run into his  
Belly,

Belly, which the Master seeing , alighted, and so left the poor beast in that condition, yet would not kill him, and so went away. About Six months after this Gentleman was riding that way with his Man, and as they rode, says his Master, *Don't you see something move yonder, Yes,* says he, *I think I see a Tree go;* and coming near to it , they put aside all the Boughs, and there spied his late Horse which he thought had died there ; so they cut off all the Boughs , which were so many as to load almost Three Carts, and then took the poor beast home, and cur'd him of all but the stump of the Tree which was in his Belly : and indeed he need not do it , for he receiv'd a great advantage by it every year, that is at least Two or Three load of Wood, which serv'd him to burn in his Chamber ; for he would never burn any other there but that , out of the love he bore to that poor beast of his. But some that heard him tell it, thought it favour'd too much of the Legend : Why if you won't believe me, ask my Man, who knows it as well as I , and shall swear it too if you please,

242.

A Lusty Widdow about Forty Five years old, yet it seems had a mind to another Husband ; and she liv'd about Four Miles from *High-Wickam*, a Market Town in *Buckingham-shire*, and having one Market sent her Maid to the Market at *Wickham*, about some business ; the Maid it seems staid longer than ordinary abroad, and when she came home, her Mistriss askt her what was the cause of staying so long at Market ? *I profess I'll hang your Coat for it : Pray Mrs. Forsooth, says she, hear me but speake first and I don't doubt but to give you satisfaction : Come you fad, speak quickly then.* Why Forsooth, says she, there was the finest Proclamation that ever I heard in my Life ; What Proclamation you Quean, speak quickly ; Why Forsooth, 'Twas that every Woman that had a little Mouth, should have Two Husbands : With that the Widdow being very much pleased with the news, began to purse and draw up her sweet Mouth : And saying, O, ,twas a pretty Proclamation, a brave Proclamation, an excellent Proclamation : I but Forsooth, says she, I'll tell you more news than all this : There was another Proclamation ;

what

What was that? says the Widdow, Why  
forsooth, those that have a wide Mouth  
shall have Three Husbands. With that  
she began to widen her lovely Mouth:  
Saying, Whaw, whaw, whaw, what a brave  
Proclamation is that ind:ed. And so every  
day after enlarged her Mouth by degrees,  
that her neighbours might take notice of  
it; and so gave in her name to the next  
Justice accordingly.

A Gentleman that liv'd in the Country  
in the Christmass-Holy-days, as many  
others do, did invite his Tenants to a  
Dinner or Supper; and one day being  
at Dinner, and seeing the Pigs long in  
comming (and being a very passionate  
Man also) askt his Wife what was be-  
come of the two Pigs; she told him  
they would come presently, and pray'd  
him to be patient: With that he began to  
curse and swear that he did believe he  
should never see his Two Spits again; his  
Wife askt him why he said so? Because,  
says he, I do believe the Pigs are run a-  
way with them, for I saw 'em with the  
Spits in their Mouths two hours ago.

244.

A Great Noble Man that was accounted mad by all that came near him, but yet had a great deal of craft withal; and one day having got a great rusty Horse-nail in his hand, he made those in the House believe he had eaten it; with that all the Physicians that were far and near were sent for, and after they had a long and serious consultation together, some said it was good to send it out by way of Purgation, others said they'd dissolve it in the body and yet should do him no hurt: And he sitting by and hearing all their discourse, told 'em they were all Fools and Mountebanks: *For, says he, could you not have applied a Load-stone to my Breech, and that would a-drawn it out, for that attracts all Iron to it.*

245.

A very courteous Tradesman had a mind to be married, and yet was afraid for fear of the charge of having Children too fast; at last he resolved to marry, and intended with his Wife before marriage, that they would lie together but once a month: *And, says he, I intend to get every month a Joint from Head to Foot*

G

of

of the Child, so by that means we shall not have too many Children ; but I do it for this reason, to ease thee in the bringing of 'em up : And after marriage it seems he lay with her the first night : And I know not how it came about , but at Forty Weeks end she was brought to Bed of a brave Boy, and perfect every way. Why how now Wife , says he , this is not according to my expectation : Yes Husband , says she , but I may thank good neighbours, or else for ought I know we might have had a deformed Child.

A Bold Cavalier passing by Ludgate in Oliver's time , one night was examined by the Constable and Watch, what he was ? He told 'em he was a Man. Who d'ye serve ? says the Constable. I serve , says he , the King . So as they were sending him to Prison , he told him he serv'd his Highness the Lord Protector . O I cry your mercy , says the Constable , why did you not say so before ? Because , says he , I thought you had lov'd the King better than my Lord Protector : If you don't , says he , I am sure you ought to di't ; and so whipt out at the Wicket and ran away , or else they had had him to Bridewell and there whipt him.

245.

A Youth passing by the Watch lately at Temple-Bar one night also ; the Constable askt him what he was ? Why, says he, a Boy; don't you see : Who d'ye serve, says the Constable, Why the King, says the Boy : Says the Constable, So do we, Is that all? d'ye serve no Body else ? Away with him to the Counter : At length he told him that he was Page to Mr. Baxter at Court ; O, says the ingenious Constable, are you Page to the Back-stairs at Court : go your ways home , for I won't stay any of the Kings Servants. No, says the Boy, how can you stopt 'em unless you find where they run out.

246.

At a Market Town in York-shire, there liv'd a Quaker that was a Barber , and the Minister of the Parish came to him for to demand Twenty Shillings for Tithe belonging to his Parsonage : the Quaker told him he ow'd him none, nor none would he pay him : He told him 'twas his due, and if he could not have it by fair means he must have it by foul : The Quaker askt him for what it was due ? He told him for Preaching and reading Divine Service , and other Ministerial

nisterial Duties in the Church : *Why*, says the Quaker, *I never come there*: *You might and you wou'd*, says the Parson; *the Door stands open*. A little after the Quaker hearing that he was suing of him for the Money, enters an Action also against the Parson for Twenty Shillings; and when the Parson came to hear of it, he went and askt him how he came to owe him Twenty Shillings ? He told him for Trimming : *Why*, says the Minister, *I never came there in my life*: *You might and you wou'd*, says the Quaker, *for the Door stands open*.

An Oxonian, meeting with a Rhodomontade in London, who it seems swore that he would take the Wall of all that he met ; the Scholar thinking nothing was going between the Wall and him: with that the Ruffler began to thrust him back, and told him, *He did not use to give every Cocks comb the Wall*: No, says t'other, *what good will the Wall do me without the House* : But, says t'other, I mean I don't use to give every Fool the Wall : But Sir, says he, I do, and am very glad that I have so good an opportunity to serve you : And so let him have it

and marcht away. ; and the other also went away very well satisfied, thinking he had put an affront upon the Scholar.

250.

A man describing to his Friend a broad brim'd Hat, which he wonder'd at when he came first to *London*, and when he came down into the Country agen, he told them of this fashon'd Hat : But one said it was so broad , that it would have serv'd conveniently for a Pent-house for another Man besides himself : Says he, *When I saw the brim of it button'd up a one side , methought it lookt just like a Trap-door naild up ; and his Bodr, having a Coat on with large Loopes , shew'd just like a Ladd:r underneath the Trap-door.*

251.

A great Butler once drinking to a sober Person a Glass of Wine , he refus'd to pledge him. *What , says he, won't you pledge me ? why then I wish this curse may attend thee : That is , That I wish that in a dark and cold rainy night , thou wert set upon a a tir'd Jade bare-ridg'd , in a dirty Lane , with a Pocky Whore behind thee , and thy own Bones rotten , and Nine Miles from any House , not knowing*

G 3

one step of the way , and with never a penny in thy Purse , and both thirsty and hungry : Sir , says he , I thank you for your good wishes , but I hope in a little time you'll enjoy ' em all your self .

250.

A Simpleton , having been married Seven or Eight years , and had no Children , and one day a Kinsman of his coming to visit him , whispered to him (innocently) Cousen , Cousen , betwixt you and I my Wif' with Child ; though , says he , I protest I had no hand in it : No , says he , I don't believe you had any hand in it : but being in a manner over joy'd with the conceit on't , and ( knowing it to be of his own begetting ) said , Cousen , Cousen , but betwixt you and I , I shall have an Heir , and I hope you will be God-father to it : No , says his Cousen , by no means , for if you should be God-father , all the neighbours will say you take Gods Name in vain there .

251.

Two Roasters , drinking in a Tavern together , one of them began his Lords health , whom the other hating , he in a scornful manner pledg'd it ; and then began another Health to the Governor of

of Hell : he denying to pledge it , they fell together by the ears , and the Master of the House came in and parted them ; and having heard the cause of their quarreling , he told the Gentleman who refus'd to drink a Health to the Governor above-said , that he was in fault : *In that*, says he , *I pledg'd his Lords Health, and he afterwards refus'd to pledge his Lord and Masters Health.*

252.

A Natural Fool, that serv'd a Knight in this Kingdom , he commanded him to give such a Lord his hand , which he presently did , but gave him his left hand ; for which his Master chid him , and told him he should have given the Lord his right hand : *A Fie Master*, says the Fool , *I think you are more Fool than I ; for that's an unseemly thing indeed to give to a great Lord that hand which I wipe my Breech with all every day.*

252.

A Fellow that had never been at Sea in all his Life before , hapned in a voyage to the Straits , to be in a very violent storm , that all in the Ship did despair of safety ; but at length by the violence of the Wind they were driven on

G 4.

the

the Ground, that there was no hopes of the Ships safety : O , says this New Seaman (with great rejoicing) take courage my Masters, for we are God-be-thanks on Ground : Why , says they , we did swim before : No , says he , the Ship did swim before and not we , but now we are like to swim indeed , or else Ich a chall never see my Vather and Mother agen.

256.

At the Election of the Emperour in 1658 , the French Embassadour came to Frankford in a most splended Equipage, and with much a-do they opened their Gates to him (because it is the custom always in Frankford , not to admit any to enter into the Town till the Election is over ) that his rich Liveries were like to be worn out before the Election day ; So that in a Pasquil one said , They had need to have brought a Lanthorn and a Candle with them , in regard they came so long before day : Then his answer was , That his Master the French King had so many Liveries made for him , that if they had not opened to him , he would take Livery and Seisin , not only of Frankford but other parts of the Empire ; having indeed a great Army more at hand.

257. A

257.

A Discreet Gentlewoman kept more Maids than ordinary to please her Husband, and he like a Wise Man gave her leave to roam abroad at her pleasure also, and being absent they always content each other, but if present then they are content to be Bawds one to another; so that there was never such true love between any couple that I have heard of before: which I think is a very good example for married folks hereafter to follow their discreet rule, to avoid contention and quarrelling.

258.

A Knights Son in the West, who was indeed his Fathers only Child, and so gave him a little more liberty than ordinary, and he was rather a lover of the State of *Venus* --- than *Genoa*, and did often haunt the Young Girles thereabouts; but especially one above the rest, which was a very pretty Maid, and about Eighteen years of age, and a Farmers Daughter, who was his Fathers Tenant; which gave him the more liberty to have free egress and regress thither; and having importun'd the Maid very much, yet she would never grant:

at

at last he promis'd her mariage, upon which he had his desire, and the Maid was with Child : but his Father and Mother fearing he might make up a match there, by his going so often thither, sent to another Knight that liv'd four Miles off, to treat between their Daughter and his Son , which was a pretty Woman also ; which they suddenly consented to, and the marriage day appointed ; and on the marriage day, when he was riding with his Man thither, the Farmer and his Daughter way-laid him under a Hedg, and askt him what recompence he should have for the wrong he had done his Daughter ? Well, says he, *there's Fifty pound for you in Gold , and I now will give you a Bond for Fifty pound more to be paid in Six Months, so you will be contented.* So under the Hedg the Bond was making, and the People at the Bride-house wondring at his so long stay, sent a Man to inquire after him , and when he came , he found him a uniting under the Hedg with the Farmer and his Daughter ; and when he had done he went his way to the Bride-house as fast as he could gallop : and the Farmer and his Daughter seeing they could not help themselves,

put

put up their Pipes and went home, at last they were married, had din'd and supt, and when they were in Bed together; he began to kiss her: Pray, says she, let me ask you a question, first, what made you und'r the Hedge with the Farmer and his Daughter so long? Why, says he, it does not concern you at all: Well, says she, I will know, or else you and I shall be at a distance. Why, says he, if you won't be angry I'll tell you: Well I will not, says she, let it be what it will: Why then, says he, I got the Farmers Daughter with-child, and she was such a Fool to tell her Father of it: By my troth, says she, she was a Fool indeed; for my Fathers Man got me with-child a bov: a tw. lve month ago, and you are the first that ever I told of it; Tarbox for that beloved.

## 256.

A Rump Soldiers Wife being a cleanly Woman, in a Moon-shiny night going thorow Thieving-lane in Westminster, and pretty heart, she having at that time a great occasion to untruss a-point, went into a corner of that Lane, and under a Bulk was pleased to deliver a poor Prisoner (for it could be no otherwise in Thieving-lane) but I know not by what

what over sight it hapned , for her under-Coat, sweet Soul, doubled inwardly, which catch'd the poor Prisoner agen, when he was got out ; at last like a discreet Woman that would over-see all she had done , looke on the ground, and seeing it not , Well , says she, this place well deserves the name of Thieving-lane ; for a Body can't lay down any thing but 'tis stole away presently : and the poor thing it seems was loath to leave her, turn'd Page , and followed at the heels, dab, dab , dab , every step ; which she knew not of till she smelt the Rogues tricks : Sirrah , says she , hence forward I'll have no more to do with you ; and so shak'd him off , that the poor thing was forc'd to lie in the Street all that cold night.

## 260.

Another Rump Officer , which forsooth , to be fine , must needs have a Muff , and being much put to't , to deliver a poor Prisoner also , was forc'd to put into an Ale House , and bid them fill him a pot of Ale , and he'd come presently : and when he came to the convenient place , and it being a little duskish and being in haste too , pretty worm , had forgot

forgot his Muff, which hung it seems behind him: and well he might be pardoned for it, for that was the first day that e'r he wore a Muff; and making more than ordinary haste, it hapned that his new Muff lighted just underneath his Masters Name-sake, viz. the Rump, and he most valiantly discharg'd all into it; and so when he had done (though he did not know what he had done) came out of the little House into the Yard, and as he was going into the House, thrust his pretty hand with his Gloves on into the Muff, which he quickly smelt and put him into such a fume, that he threw his Muff and Gloves in the Womans Face, and told her that was enough to pay for the pot of Ale; and so went away.

## 261.

A Country Woman that was a bold Gossip, came to a Butchers in Oxford, and when she saw a Shoulder of Mutton hang up, she askt him what she should give him for it? He told her two Shillings and a half: *Two farts and a half*, says she: *Why*, says he, *give me two farts and a half and thou shalt have it*: *Say'st thou so Boy*, says she, *Why then have at*

it ; then she lifted up her pretty right leg , and let a good one , Well , says he , there's one ; then sweet soul , she lifted up her left leg , and let another as good ; then lifting up her two legs one after another , she let a lusty one ; Well , says he , there's three , but where's the half one ? Why , says she , take which half you will of the last , for that was a rowsing one .

## 259.

A young and formal pretended Lawyer was once pleading before some grave and knowing Lawyers , and after a great deal of little Law he had plentifully poured out , they told him they thought the last he spoke was not true ; says he , Upon my veracity 'tis true ; they told him they did not understand that word , he then said , that he was very glad that he had spoke that which did puzzle so many great Lawyers ; they askt him whether he understood it himself ? Yes , says he (very learnedly) the word is composed of four syllables , and the two first makes my words to be true , for Vera is Truth Gentlemen , and you know what City is because you live in it ; and I could Cite ye a hundred more of these things out of Littleton , Cook , Sir Francis Bacon , and others , but tansone

Vir

Vir sapit qui patua loquitur, I think I have done my pare; and so went out of doors vapering what he had done.

260.

A Lord in this Kingdom, that it seems by mistake had sealed to something that day, for which he was very much troubled; at last, after some vexation and grief for it, he call'd up his man into the Chamber to him, saying, Tom was not I a fool to do as I did too day? Yes truly were you my Lord, says he, you were an arrant fool for it. Sirrah, says he, though I call myself fool, I don't allow you to do it too; and so kickt him out of doors.

261.

One askt some Gentlemen that were drinking in a room together, what this Proverb means, which says, Fair language grates nor the tongue? One very learnedly told him, that it must concern only the prisoners at the grates, that are there begging, and are forct to give good language before they can get any thing; and many times great's their wants.

262.

An ancient Justice of Peace was chid by a Neighbour Justice, for marrying a young

young Girle ; Peace brother, says he, hold thy tongue, she'll be a woman too m:rrow ; for, says he, Wives are young mens Mistresses, middle aged mens Companions, and old mens Nurses ; and will you blame a man to have a Nurse in his old age ? No, says he, I don't blame you to have a Nurse, but I do blame you that you are not provided for Heaven, but that your Wife must do it : Why, says he, don't you know whither all Cuckolds go. O, says he, now you put me in mind on't 'tis true ; for I have heard your Wife say many years ago that she was confident her husband would go to heaven, and now I find which way ; and mnum for that my dear brother too.

## 266.

One was saying, That those men which do affect gravity, did seldom speak when any was a telling them a story, but only wag the head ; but another told him he was confident they do as we do our Bottles, that is shake 'em, to try if they have any wit in their heads to give answer to their speech : but a third said, he thought that all those wagg'd their heads, did it only but in wagging.

## 267.

Two Gentlemen it seems one night  
quar-

quarrelled at gaming , and over-night one sent the other a challenge to meet him by Six a clock too morrow morning at such a place , upon his honour : *Hang honour*, says he , for we both are but worshipful ; and withal tell him 'tis not my custom ( and I also know 'tis not his ) to rise before Eleven or Twelve a Clock , and bid him consider with himself whether we should break our rest to break our limbs ? The other sent him word , that if he did not meet him , he'd post him . Well , says he , tell him if he does , I'll ride post out of Town , and there stay till his fury is over . So we see that some are in post-haste to fight , and some in post-haste to ride away .

## 268.

One askt another of his companions at a Coffee-house what was the meaning of this Proverb , viz. *The City for wealth , and the Countrey for health* ? He told him it was preposterous , for you know there's more Healths drank in the City than in all the Countrey agen . Why , says he , that makes for the Proverb ; for if they drink away their healths they can never be well : but the truth is , that the wealth of the Countrey being brought into the City , is the

the occasion of so much drinking of  
Healths.

## 266.

' Also there's another Proverb which speaks very pat, viz. Sleep without supping, and health will follow; yet I must ingenuously confess that I never saw a man sup in his sleep. Yes, says i' other, 'tis many suppings many times that makes him sleep; and commonly after supping a great many healths do follow.

## 267.

One was saying, That the body is more drest than the soul; But I deny that, says his friend; for the body and soul of a Goose are both drest alike, and together; and the body of a Sole-fish is not drest by piece-meals, but altogether: Truly, says t'other, I think you are sol·ly in the right; Nay 'tis true, I would not so lie as you do every day for a great deal.

## 268.

A good and vertuous woman was told by a Lawyers Clerk that lived in that Countrey Town where she dwelt, That when he was at London last there was a Law made, that all labouring men that were Cuckolds, were to have four pounds a year allow'd them out of the Shire.

Shire where they liv'd. Well, says she, this is comfortable news; I am sure my poor husband takes as much pains as any man, and four pound a year will do us a courtesie these hard times. Then she askt him how many times doing would make a man a Cuckold? He told her by this new Law three times would. Nay then, says she, I am well enough, for I am sure my poor husband will receive his pension.

## 269.

An Irish footman passing thorow the Market at Oxford, spied a Sheeps-head and Gethers hang upon the Stall, and askt the Butcher what it was? He told him it was a Sheeps-head and Gethers. Preddee, says he, what wo't dow have for it? He told him Six pence. Well, says he, No have paid thee; preddee tell me how I must dress it? Then he told him, that he must cleave it in twain, and wash it very clean, and pull off all the wooll that sticks on it, and then boil it. Fair broder, says he, I can't remember all dis, predde g'it me in writing. So he did, and as he was going along, a great Mastiff Dog seeing the Head hang dangling at his back, gave a good snap at it, and ran away with the Gethers; then a Shop-

Shop-keeper told him what the Dog had done. *O let him alone*, says he, *let him alone*; for he knows not how to dress it; for I have the receipt in my pocket: I know he will bring it agen.

273.

Another Irish footman, that was Servant to a Gentleman in Ireland, that kept a Setting Dog; and having one day been a setting for Partridges, he took a whole Covey of very little ones, that had been but lately hatcht: so he bid his man take them up, and put them into his Hat and carry them to such a Gentleman that was a friend of his, about a mile off; and bid him present his service to him: and also that he had sent him those Partridges. So he marcht on, till he came thither. He found the Gentleman at home, saying, Feit Sir I'll tell thee a pretty ting; my Master remembers his love to thee, and sent me to see how dost thou do; and widalt has sent thee. (and as he was feeling in his Hat for the young Partridges, his Hat being open behind, the Partridges all hopt out of the Hat) he has sent thee (and finding them all gone) said, by Christ and St. Patrick he has sent thee nothing at all.

Here

Here follows some probable impro-  
bable Stories.

274.

A great Spanish Commander that had been in service against the Turks, when he came home, he told such a loud lie before the Council of Spain, that all lookt upon it as ridiculous, but impudent in him to tell it there: then the Council put him out, and call'd in one of his Captains, who did not only second what his Commander had said, but told a louder lie; for which he was rebukt by one of the Council, for telling such a notorious untruth: *O my Lord, says he, you must pardon me, I do but my duty in following my Commander;* Then they told him he had out done his Commander: *The more is my honour and glory then,* says he, *and I hope the King will pay me well for it.*

275.

In a Discourse at Table, wherein they chiefly treated of strange things, and one among them said that he had a piece of the Hawthorn Tree in a Box, which always blew on Christmases day for many years

years together, and at last was robb'd of ~~all~~  
it by some of the Parliament Forces,  
and could never get it agen : Why, says  
one , how could it live and bloom as you  
say, without some earth, or the Suns influ-  
ence: Why, says he , d'ye think if it hav-  
that vertue to bloom on Christmass day,  
that it had not the vertue also to blow with-  
out the help of the Sun or earth ? and so  
let out some Oaths to confirm it.

But another being by to fit him in his  
Story , and to make it appear to be  
truth (as you it know was) began to con-  
firm what the other had said, wit'some  
Oaths to ) For, says he , I my self have  
seen that Hawthorn Tree bloom a Hundred  
Christmass days, and if I should say a Hun-  
dred more I should not lie ; and I went once  
thither when they were come to be Berries,  
which were red, hard and large ; and so  
took some of them and button'd me a Suit  
and Coat with it , as this fashion is now  
(for you know our fashion in England for  
Cloaths never alters ) and when I and some  
others were at Church together upon Christ-  
mass day in the morning, little thinking of  
it, about Ten of the Clock precisely ( he  
swore) that the branches sprung out so  
falt

of fast and so thick, that he was covered  
all over with them; insomuch that he  
lookt as if he had been in a Wood, and  
so heavy they were upon him, that he  
could not stir, till one went out of the  
Church and fetch'd an Axe, and cut a-  
way all the Boughs, that he might see  
his way out; and when they had done,  
he went home in this posture to his  
lodging; and swore also that there was  
as much Wood cut off as serv'd him all  
that Winter for fewel to his Chamber:  
*But however,* says he, *I had rather be at*  
*the charge of Wood, than to b: serv'd so a-*  
*gen. But Gentlemen I tell you this to con-*  
*firm what that worthy Gentleman told you*  
*before; whereas you were in doubt for a great*  
*while whether it was truth or no: but I hope*  
*there's no doubt now, and so swore it agen.*

## 275.

Then another told a Story that a Mil-  
ler had a Horse for many years toge-  
ther, whose name was *Roan*, - and be-  
ing tired with working all day, poor  
Jade, slept soundly at night, which a  
thievish fellow espying, fley'd off his  
Skin whilst he slept, and went away  
with it: But Old Roan when he awakt,  
(though 'twas a bitter cold night) yet  
poor

poor thing he came home to the Mill door and neighed very loud , which the honest Miller hearing , awakt his Wife , and askt her whether that was not the neighing of our Old Roan : Truly Husband , says she , it is , let's rise and see what's the matter with him ; and when they came out , they wondred to see him in such a pickle : Well Husband , says she , since 'tis as 'tis , I de have you kill Five or Six of our Sheep ( and to morrow being Market day we can sell their El sh there ) and take all th<sup>e</sup> Skins and cl.ap 'em hot upon poor Roan ; which he presently did with his dear Wives help , and clapt them hot on the Horses fley'd Back ; which with the cold night were present-ly froz'd on , and the Horse as well or rather better in health than ever he was in his life , and I am sure you'll say warmer : And this Horse , says he , he kept for many years after , and eve-ry year it brought him Thirty Tod of Wooll : and I hope you will believe it , but if you don't believe it , I pray take notice , that I am not bound to find you stories and belief too : Then they all con-cluded it was true--lie so .

278.

Another swore most plentifully, That  
he saw a Lobster kill a Hare upon *Salis-  
bury Plain*; then they all began to think  
indeed that was a lie, till he very dis-  
creetly told them how it was; for the  
Lobsters that are taken at *Weymouth*,  
*Southampton*, and upon the Sea-coasts  
thereabouts, are presently convey'd in  
Panniers into the Midland Countrey,  
and by the way on *Salisbury Plain* did  
drop a very great Lobster, and a Hare  
a little after came close to the Lobster:  
which the Lobster feeling, with his Claw  
presently catcht him fast by the foot,  
and so kill'd him, and swore also that  
the same Hare and Lobster were both  
put into a Pie, and both bak'd together  
(but I don't mean with the skin and the  
shell on) then you'd think't a lie indeed;  
and so sent up to *London*, and eaten  
there.

279.

Another swore pretty largely too, That  
he knew a Hare, that after he was taken  
and garbaged, did give the Dogs a Chase  
for five or six miles together; then they  
cry'd out all 'twas a loud lie: No, says  
he, it can't be a loud lie, for it seems you

H

don't

don't allow it. Yes, say they, we do allow it for a lie: But, says he, I do avow it for truth; and thus it was, for the Hare being tied to the Huntsmans Saddle in a string, it hapned that the string slipt, and the Hare in the string hung down between the Horse Legs upon the ground, and the Horse being mettlesome, gallops away with the Hare at his heels, and the Dogs marcht after; but the truth was the Man could not hold the Horse in: Nay then, say they, this may be impossibly probable.

280.

Another very sober Man told a story, That once he went a coursing alone with a Grey-hound Bitch, that was great with Whelp; and having started a Hare, it hapned the Hare went through a Muse In a Hedge, where a Carpenter had hid his Axe, lying it seems with the edge upward; and so the Hare being with Young in going through that Muse cut her Belly with the edge of the Axe; then out started Eight young Hares, and began to run immediately (as you know some Hares will, before they are kindled) but the Grey-hound Bitch suddenly following the Hare through the very same Muse, by chance cut her Belly

Belly also, and out came eight Whelps, which eight Whelps ran after the eight young Hares, and the Bitch after the Old Hare, and kill'd 'em all. Now says he to them, *Some nice people may take this for a lie, but I think 'tis as probable as any of the rest, because the wonder is greater; that there should be but just the number of Eight Whelps and Eight young Hares, and if true, Probatum est.*

281.

Another Story was, That he being in a Low-room with some other Gentlemen a drinking of Bottle Ale; he saw the Man of the House open a Bottle, and the Cork flew up with such violence, that it strook his Hat off his Head, and after that went thorow the Cieling of that Room, and another Room above that, which was two pair of Stairs high, and kill'd a Man and his Wife as they lay in Bed; and from thence flew up into the Garret, that they could not get it out with a Hammer and Mallet.

282.

S'r, says another, *to make good your story, which I saw with my own Eyes; that being with some others in an upper Room; one was then opening a Bottle of Ale, and*

the Cork then flew up with such violence thorow the top of the House, that it broke the Ceiling and the Tiles also, and kill'd a Kight as he was flying just then over the House; and the hole wae so big which the Cork had made, that down fell the Kight thorow that hole, and they opening the Kight to see where she was wounded, found Two great Chickens in her Belly, which they sold to pay for their Drink, and after that would never drink in any other Room in that House: but I don't know that it ever hapned so agen; for these things, though there be truth in 'em, don't happen every day so.

## 283.

Another began to tell them his Story, (which he swore was of a certain, as you know all these things are:) For, says he, I was riding to St. Albans, and riding through a lane, that was of stiff clay, as I was gallopping, my horse foot sticking in, pluckt off shoe and hoof too, and so I gallopt on for three or four miles: and my horse never complained, that I never saw a horse that gallopt so well on three legs in my life; at length he began to limp, then I alighted to see what he ailed, and found both shoe and hoof gone; so fearing to pay for the horse,

got presently up agen, and gallopt as fast as I could drive, and fortunately my horse let lighted a en in the same place, and pull'd up hoof and shoe and all, which was better fastened than when I came out; and so I perform'd my journey, and got that night as far as I rid.

## 284.

Another, whom all the Town knew to be as far from telling a lie as the London Clocks, and so gave the more ear to him; swore that he had travelled all over Germany, and at *Aufspurg* a great City there, he saw a man that had a Nose so big, that he could not hear himself sneeze: Sure, says one of the company, this can't be an honest man? Yes, says he, he was accounted an honest man, and was also a Burgomaster; but, says he, I am sure he was a knave. Pray explain your self, says t'other; Why, says he, I believe he has been in the Pillory, and so by consequence had lost his ears: Ergo.

## 285.

Another very learnedly said, That he saw two men ride down a hill together a great pace, and of a sudden the first horse stopt in the midway; which gave the formost such a jerk, that he threw

H 3

him

him quite out of the Saddle backwards, that he lighted astride behind the hindmost man; and his coming so forcibly upon him, struck the hindmost man off his own upon the first horse, which stood still, and all in an instant. Says one, 'Tis strange if it be true. Truly, says t'other, 't is not so strange as true.

286.

A Gallant some Sixty years since, as he was travelling down into the Country, came to an Inne (for you'll say 'twas pitty he should lie out that weather) and told the Hostler that the Hay was stark naught: How stark naught, says he, d'ye know what you say, I am confident you are mistaken (and knowing him to be a Papist) told him 'twas as good Hay as the Pope of Rome need to eat: Well then, says he, my Horse shall not be so bold as to eat that which is fit for a Pope; Pray give him some other Hay.

287.

A Gentleman that had more mind to have store of Money than to have a Wife, yet he found he could no way supply himself so well as that way, unless he sold some of his estate; at length he was told by his friend, that he might have

have a Gentlewoman with Fifteen hundred pound, but she was ugly : *Faith*, says he, *though my occasions are very great for Money*, yet I would be content with half the Money till I fetch away the Bride.

288.

The English of a Sentence begins first and the Latine follows, *viz.* We are beholding to thy Man-slaughter, because he hath made ready Breakfast: and in Latine thus; yet I hope you will not think that *Priscians Head* is broke neither: *Nos sumus intuentes homocidio tuo: quia fecit rabrum oculum frangere fixum:*

289.

A Gentleman did advise a Kinsman of his to marriage, for marriage frees a Man from all care; for then the Wife takes all upon her: which a married Man that late by hearing, said, *Yes a-pox on her, so does my Wife take all upon her that comes to her.*

290.

A Vintner being broke, was it seems forc'd to set up an Ale House in the Suburbs, and being askt why he did discredit himself so much, to leave off Wine to sell Beer and Ale? He told him the chief reason was, because he lov'd a

H. 4.

Coun-

Com'treyman better than a Stranger; for Beer and Ale are my Countrymen, but Wine's a Stranger: but the Gentleman told him he did not well, for he must make much of any stranger that comes within his gates: *So will I that*, says he, *when I get it within my gates agen; I'll make more of it than I did; nay much more; because I would not break the Command.*

## 291.

One did advise a Nobleman that must live high (yet had no great estate to bear it out) that he should do well to be only attended with Blackamores; which would ease him of a vast charge, especially if he should put all his family in mourning; for 'tis but turning of them naked at that time, and they are in mourning in a trice. *Why, says the Lord, that will be a shame for 'em to go along the streets so.* *No, no, my Lord, says he, 'tis natural for Moors to go naked; for more goes so than clothed.*

## 292.

A Countrey Gentleman askt a wise man, when he saw a fellow abuse him and spurn at him, why he did not spurn at him agen? *Why truly, says he, I think*

think I should do very indiscreetly in so doing; for if an Ass shou'd kick me, must I needs kick him agen?

## 293.

A Gentleman being in a great Assembly of Gentlemen at a great Dinner, one askt him why he would not live in London in the Winter; where he should find all sorts of company to fit his humour? Faith, says he, so I would, if I could find a house fit for my turn. One, whose name was Chambers, thinking to abuse him, told him he could help him to a house that had three Rooms of a floor; but it was built of Wood: He askt him where it was? He told him at Tiburn. 'Tis true indeed, says the Gentleman, 'tis a convenient house, and stands in a good air; for in an hour it cures people of all Diseases: and for a house that is but one story high, 'tis a fine house indeed; but I find there's no want in it but Chambers: Tarbox for that Sir.

## 294.

A Gentleman travelling into Norfolk, by chance lost his way; and coming into a Village, and seeing a man standing at his door, askt him which was the next way to Norwich? The man (as many would do) askt him from whence he

came? What's that to you, says he, from whence I come. You say true indeed, says the man, 'is nothing to me, whence you come, nor whither you go: and with that whipt in and shut the door upon the Gentleman, who else would have whipt his Jacket for him. So he did advise all his friends, if ever they travail'd into Norfolk, never to call at that mans house; which he poor heart thought a great punishment for him.

## 295.

A Company of confident Blades were each of 'em bragging what they durst do, and how they wou'd go upon any exploit. Puh, says one among 'em, ye are all Prunges to me; for I dare go where a Prince cannot send his Embassadour. They then askt him where that was? He said, To go to stool; for though an Embassadour represents the Kings person, yet he cannot do his business for him that way. Yes, yes, say they, we smell your conceit, and therefore think you a Fanatick; for it savours too much of the Rump.

## 296.

A man pays very dear for things that are good cheap; because it tempts him to buy those things which he has no need of;

of: but if he has no need of 'em why does he buy 'em? he was told because they were cheap: *Wby*, says t'other, *how can they be cheap when he paid too dear for them.*

297.

A Man when he is married turns his walking Staffe into a fixt Stake, for then his condition is not Ambulatory but settled and fixt; that is (as I humbly conceive) if he be fixt to a good Woman, if not, then all the months in the year may be *March* to him; that is may be blustring, which will certainly put him into a marching condition agen.

298.

A Gentleman was saying that Wine, Women, and Play, does undo Men laughing: but by his favour, I cannot submit to his opinion therein, but do flatly deny it: for Play does undo Men by Cursing, Fretting, Swearing, and Duelling; nay, some fret so much that the tickling frets of an Instrument would never compose 'em.

299.

A Sharking Fellow that would borrow of any body that would lend him, and go in debt to any body that would trust him;

him; and when they looke after him, would shift from place to place: and though he was so great a shifter, yet he never could shift his Cloaths, neither can he say that he was put to his shifts; for his shifts when they were thrown off would move, and come to him of themselves agen, by the vertue of a multitude of sextipedal Creatures, which he always kept in 'em both at Board and Bed.

## 300.

One said that he saw a Man cut a Purse, and gave it to his Wife to wear, which she did hang by her side: But, says he, if you should cut a Purse, you may hang by the side of the Gallows; and though the Purse is so civil to them, as to keep safe whatsoever is put in. yet whenever they would ha' out agen, they are so uncivil to pluck the Purse by the ears to open it, and at all times do almost starve him; for they tie up his mouth from eating.

## 301.

A Gentleman lying in a Lodging in Westminster, had a Shock Dog which came up into his Chamber where he was, where it seems a Cat had kitten'd; then

then the Cat flew upon the Dog and the Dog at her agen : Let 'em alone , says another , I'll warrant you the Dog will stand a shock or too with the Cat : Faith , says he , if he does , I'll bake a flock of Wheat into excellent Bread for him : and then he'll be a well-bred Dog too .

302.

One *Nathaniel Gold* had a Nose that was well set and inlaid round about with rich Jems , as Diamonds , Rubies , Sapphires , Emeralds , &c. and they were so plac'd as if their heads were peeping out of a Watch-Tower to secure themselves and their Masters interest : Then one askt him whether they were Centinels : No , says he , *Centinel* is but one ; but these are his Life-gaurd , and keep their head-quarters there : How , says another , I thought all the Four-quarters had been below the head .

303.

A Gentlewoman in London , whose Face was very much patch'd ( by which you may see 't was mended ) whose Father was a Spaniard and Mother an English Woman : the Sadler askt her what her name was ? She said , *Dona Maria Katherina Pacheco* : Pacheco , says he , that

that is patches on the Cheed ho : then she call'd him Patch pannel Rogue : Yes, says he , I do patch up several infirmities as you do.

304.

When a Citizen was by accident in Tower-street burnt to death by Powder, a Gentleman said he had eaten so much powdered Beef that day that he was all in a flame ; and though he was blown up , yet I'll assure you no broken Citizen , for he was found whole , and in another hole was put the next day.

305.

A Gentleman tacitely drank the Kings Health in Olivers days , by drinking a Health to Oliver C ; that is Olive C.R. and likewise at another time drank the Kings Health as tacitely, when he drank a Health to the King of the Jews, viz. I. Ireland , E. England , W. Wales , and S. Scotland , which Four Letters put together makes up the word Jews ; and several of the Parliament Officers drank it also , not knowing what they did when they drank it.

306.

When a London Scrivener died in Oxford in the time of the Sickness, a merry Jack

Jack writ this over him : *May all by  
these presents know, that I that have bound  
so many, am now fast bound my self ; by  
the means of a Gentleman of an Ancient Fa-  
mily, call'd Mr. Death, who brought me  
my last Sheet, and to my last perod or ful-  
point; and though I was never guilty of a-  
ny great wickedness, yet I liv'd not with-  
out many a blot, which my Daughter Pen  
was the occasion of : I gave no ill example  
to any, but rather gave good Copies unto  
all : I was learned too, for I always dealt  
in good Letters, and was a Justice of Peace  
in my own Dominions ; and though I could  
not hang, yet I could draw ; yet I could hang  
an Arse when my own Money was to be  
paid : and I made all Bond-men but my  
Frentices, for them I made Free : and af-  
ter I had writ up all my Letters, this Mr.  
Death threw some Dust upon 'em ; and as  
one dash of my Pen had ruin'd many, so my  
Daughter Pen ruin'd her self : But this  
naughty Mr. Death assaules me with Bills  
when I was making of Bonds, and at last  
seal'd the Letters of my Eyes quite up, and  
then sent me away post to my long home.*

307.

There was one Munday a Cutler in Shoe-  
lane that hang'd himself, but it was no  
boot

boot for him to do it , for he never recovered after : And when the People came in they found a Knife in the House to cut the Rope , upon which the Common Council of that place made an Act presently , that Tuesday should begin the Week ; since Munday ( a Rope take him ) hath hang'd himself ; that is the cause that all the Cutlers in that place never works of a Munday : It may be that was the occasion also among the Shooe-makers , because they call Munday the Shooe-makers Holy-day , and they don't make Holy-days for nothing .

## 308

In the time of the grand Rebellion , when every young Boy that had been but a year in the University , would pretend to be gifted , and then thunder out abundance of rich ignorance , which was then thought plausible Doctrine ; which a grave and orthodox Divine seeing ( who was turn'd out of all for his loyalty to his King ) gave this advice to the two Universities , That they should not suffer some like *Essex* Calves to suck too long , and that they should not wean others too young ; but that they should not

not only suck the Milk, but stay that they might taste of the Cream also.

309.

A Goldsmith it seems was formerly brought into the Star-Chamber for false Gold and Silver, for which they fin'd him 100*l.* and about a Twelve Month after 100*l.* more, and a Year after that 100*l.* more: then says he, *My Lords,* *I see that you have fin'd me, and fin'd me agen, and re-fin'd me; but it seems you can't do so to my Metal, that nothing can melt me down into your sense:* They told him if they could not melt him they'd melt his purse, so that it should run quite out at last: *But my Lords,* says he, *as the Cobler says, my Last is not come yet.*

310.

A Gentleman was saying lately that *Rome* caus'd hate and debate throughout the World, yet if you do but weigh the thing rightly in the Room of your heart, you'll find that *Roma* is *Amor*, if it be read backwards; so that methinks 'tis strange that *Rome* should foster hate so as it does: but now having taken the Premisses into my serious consideration, I do think indeed, and so do all you, that all hate grows out of backward love.

311. A

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311. A

311.

A Fellow was saying, That marriage and hanging goes by destiny, but a Man that it seems had been long troubled with a waspish Girle, swore he thought hanging was the better match; and whereas 'tis said, 'tis better marry than burn: *But I protest were I unmarried agen, I had rather burn than marry: I marry had I indeed.*

312.

An Honest Man that was a true Cavalier, was when he came from the Wars, so reduc'd, that he was forc'd to turn Ale Draper, and his sign was the Rose and Crown; and in 1649, the Rump forc'd him to blot out the Crown but left the Rose still, as they thought to prick his Fingers; and when the King was restored, then he put on the Crown agen, and writ underneath, *The case is alter'd.*

313.

A known Coward being challenged to fight, a Gentleman told him that if he did not answer the Challenge he would be posted up for a notorious Coward: *Why, says he, you have promised me to be my second, but you shall have the honour if you*

you please to be my first ; that is, if you  
please to tend me your body for that use :  
Then, says he, you'll be my second : Yes,  
says he, in any thing but fighting.

314.

A Simpleton, that was brought in by  
power in *Olivers* days to be a Fellow of  
a Colledge in *Oxford*, his Father being  
then made a Baron of *Olivers*, he would  
never name his Father or Mother to a-  
ny body , but he would say, *My Lord*  
*the Baron my Father, and my Lady the*  
*Baroness my Mother*; for which he was  
rebukt by some of their own party,  
who were ashamed to hear him say  
so. But a Gentleman told 'em they did  
erre in rebuking of him , and told 'em  
also, that he had spoken nothing but  
truth , for he was truly descended from  
them both ( his Father also was accoun-  
ted none of *Solomons* Bastards neither )  
and thus I will riddle it to you : first  
from the Baron , because he was a bare  
one in Judgment ; and then from the  
Baroness , because he had a great ba-  
renness in his Wit : *Indeed Sir,* says the  
Simpleton, *I think you have defined it ve-*  
*ry well, I wish I may have that grace*  
*but to be as you say : Yes Ass I say, I pro-*  
*test*

test Sir that's a pretty joke : that belongs to me too, does it not ? Yes, yes, Then he fell our a laughing heartily , and rubbing his hands ; saying, Sir your servant, your servant, your servant in Folio : Yes, says he, in Folio indeed ; and so they parted.

315.

An honest Cavalier had a devillish Round-head to his Wife , which did dis-cover all his Secrets and Actions to the then pretended Parliament ; which made him ask a Friend of his what was the best cure for a Round-head : He told him to let him do as if his right hand offended him ; for desperate Diseases must have desperate Cures.

316.

An Impudent Drunken Fellow came to an honest sober Man and did abuse him at so large a rate , that he began to be concerned for it : Puh , says another , 'tis no matter what a Drunkard says in his Drink ; for he seldom speaks anything he can stand to : Why then , says the other very soberly , if he cannot stand to it , then he lies .

317. A

317.

A great number both of Seamen and Soldiers being in a great Ship together, this last Summers Ingagement, one of them, when he saw 'em cast anchor, askt the Master and his Mate, whether the Ship were sick or not ? They askt him his reason, he said because it spewd ; How spewd? say they : Why does it not spew when it does cast ? Cast what ? Why Anchor : Yes indeed, says the Master, we did cast Ann Car over board, after she died.

318.

A Gallant that had a very great mind to be married, but more for Moneys sake than for any thing else ; at laft a Gentleman of his acquaintance, hearing by a Letter from a Friend of his in the Country, found out one presently, as he thought a great match for him ; seeing he aim'd at nothing but Money : and so went to him and acquainted him that he had found out a very great match for him : For, says he, I know your temper, and she hath 8000*l.* to her Portion ; but she is sufficiently ugly : which he hearing, shrug'd up his Shoulders, and said : Indeed Sir I do confess the Money

ney is a very good match : Indeed , says  
r'other , I think you have met with your  
match now : It may be , says he , I have  
met with my match but not with my Wife ;  
for I'll see her as low as her 8000 l. was  
from whence it came at first , before I'll  
have any thing to do with such a bow'd  
token .

## 319.

A Sober Justice of Peace , when he  
observed how many Men and Women  
went only abroad more to shew them-  
selves and their fine Cloaths than any  
thing else ; told another Gentleman  
that some people make it their business  
to go abroad , not go abroad about  
their business : Sir , says he , your business  
in discovering these errors , will but beget  
you hatred instead of love , and say you are  
a busie body .

## 320.

X When King Charles the First was Prince ,  
when he first landed at his coming from  
Spain , it rain'd and thundred four or five  
hours together : Says a Recusant to a  
Protestant , You see how the Divisions are  
disturb'd and displeas'd that the Prince  
should come so soon from that blessed Cat-  
holic Country : O Sir , says r'other , there's

says your misinterpretation of it , and so by con-  
sequence mistake ; for the Heavens for very  
have joy that the Prince is come from that Hereti-  
cal Country, shoots its Ordinance together,  
and likewise the earth hath pledg'd the Kings  
Health for four or five hours together : What  
think you now Sir ?

## 321.

One askt a Gentleman why he staid  
and walke so long in that dirty field? He  
told him because it was very civil and  
courteous to him , and more than he  
did deserve or desire ; for at every step  
the dirt did invite him to stay. Yes,says  
t'other , I believe so : for it seems 'twas a  
good stay to you : for I did not see you fall.

## 322.

A Gallant , when he saw that he could  
not make a young woman to love him,  
askt her the reason ? She told him be-  
cause his face was so devillish ugly. H . w ,  
says he, my face ugly ? d'ye know what you  
say ? for I know it can't be : And I'll assure  
ye I had my choice of twenty faces this mor-  
ning , and therefore you may presume that I  
would not make choice of the worst. That is,  
his Looking-glass was broke into so ma-  
ny pieces.

323.

A vapouring Coxcomb, intruding himself, as he did alwayes, into all Companies where pretty Ladies are, was telling the Ladies how such a one gave him a Ring, and t'other a Favour, and t'other a Kiss, and abundance more, which a Gentleman that knew him very well, knew that he lied in all he said: and so wipt him in such terms that he did not understand: *For, says he, Ladies you must believe this Gentleman; for I have often been in his company, and among very pretty Ladies too, and they have lov'd him so well, that they doated upon his very absence; and when many times he intruded himself among them, they would desire him to bestow his absence upon them. Lay you there now Ladies, will you believe me another time? says he.*

324.

A Man advised a Gentleman to marry that Woman, though she was unhand-some, for her moneys sake. *No, says he, I protest I would not marry her, though she were endow'd with all that Adam had left him before he transgreſſed: Why, says he, you may have that Land behind our Hop-yard too, and ſome where else, wh.ch was*

member of any of Adams Portion: How, says he, what wye mean? Why good-man fool, says he, 'tis Eve's Portion as I mean: Truly, lays c'other, I never knew that till now.

326.

A Gentleman, that had as I hear, been long a Suiter to a young Lady, whose Father was a Knight, and at that time high Sheriff of the County; and after they had long disputed about the Portion, it hapned that the Sheriff had summon'd the County together upon some urgent occasion, into a Common three or four Miles off, and there did appear upon a very brave Horse, which the young Gentleman that was a Suiter to his Daughter was much in love withal, and did desire that he would bestow that Horse upon him; the Knight told him that he would not part from him; then he desired to buy him: then he told him plainly that no Money should buy him: Why then, says he in a fume, you may keep your Daughter, and so rode away: But about three months after he took it into consideration, and thought he had done very indiscreetly,

discreetly, and went again to the Knights House, and as he was riding into the Gate, a Maid of the House spy'd him, and went and told her young Mistress; who bid her shut the Door fast and lock it too: a little after the Gentleman comes to the Door and knocks, and the young Lady being at other side, askt who was there? He laid, Madam a faithful Servant of yours: Sir, says she, I don't know you, and I dare not let any body in now my Fathers from home; for we had a great Robbery committed lately hard by at this time a day: Why Madam, says he, don't you know me; I am such a man that loves you dearly I protest: O Sir, says she, is it you? I do remember about six months ago that here was such a one indeed that was in love with my Fathers Horse: and so flung away, and would not suffer the Door to be opened, nor never would admit of any more of his addresses to her: That it seems he was at last contented to march off without Lady or Horse either.

A Man in a bitter cold Winter night,  
was passing through the Street, and see-  
ing all a Bed, and no Candle in any  
Window

Window neither ; then bethought himself of this project ; for he then went up and down crying Fire , Fire, which made several come to the Windows : They askt him where ? where ? He told them that he did not know, for if he did , he would go th' to warm himself : *For, says he, I am devillish cold.*

Another time he fell also to his old trade of crying Fire as before , which made all the People rise, to their Windows, and askt him where ? He told 'em in his Throat , for he was so wonder-  
ful dry with eating of Salt HERRINGS , that he must needs get some Drink to quench it.

Several Men being merry together , and among other discourse were prais-  
ing their Wives : *Faith, says a Fellow,* that had a devillish scold to his Wife ; *My Wife is as brave a Woman as any is in England all but her Tongue doth daft her out ;* says another : *No, not* says he , *by no means ; for I have heard say that if you lop a Tree, it takes the faster root, and by consequence there will more branches come out ; which will be stronger*

than those before: and who can tell but it may be felvibz my dear Wif's Tongue, if I shculd cut it?

330.

A merry Wagg at Wolvercot near Oxford, met a Countreyman going thither with a Goose to sell; but he had agreed with a Comrade of his to say 'twas an Owl: So he askt him how he sold his Owle? He said 'twas a Goose, and t'other an Owle: So they argued a good while together, at last says the Wagg, We'll be tried by the next man we meet: Content, says the Countreyman; and if he say 'tis an Owl, I'll lose it; but if he say 'tis a Goose, then you shall give me half a Crown for the Goose, and I'll keep it too. Content, says the Wagg. So going on, they met as by accident, his aforesaid Comrade; and after some debate, he plainly said it was an Owl; and so they got the Goose. So the Countreyman as he went alone, began at last to think he was cheated; and was resolved to study for a Revenge: and about a Week after he comes to Oxford again, and brought a Pot of supposed Honey with him to sell: so the Wagg spying him in the Market, askt him how he sold his Honey?

He

He said twas Sir-reverence. T'other said 'twas Honey , but the man said 'twas Tu --- and so they argued a great while ; at last he bought it of him , saying , *Let it be what it will, I'll buy it :* and when he came home to open it , he found it was true what the man said ; only the top for an inch deep cover'd with Honey : and when he had got his money , thought he to himself now I am quit with you ; for the Case is *All turd* now .

## 331.

An antient harmless Gentleman (and therefore harmless, because he was toothless) being at Breakfast with some others, among which was a young brisk and smart Lady that sate next to him ; and among other dishes of Meat, there was a lusty Coller of Brawn , and the old Man having a piece of it on his Trencher, which you know is a slippery Meat , and he putting a piece of it into his Chops , it quickly slipt out agen upon the Ladies Trencher afore-said ; She presently fell a laughing , and gave him a Pin to fasten his Mouth, that no more should come out in that manner ; and with langhing so heartily at the conceit

made an escape behind ; which the old Man hearing , presently gave her the Pin back agen : telling her that place was the most fit to be fastned.

ANOTHER JEST. M 10 32.

A lusty fat man, being to deliver a Message from his Lady to some other Ladies that were there , by chance let a Fly with that he turn'd his Head about , as it were correcting that part behind , for its too much boldness without his leave : saying , Hold your tongue friend , for 'tis not fit that you and I should talk together at one time , for your twatting , though it be for my ease , yet 'tis not for my content : yet by this favour he loses nothing by him , because many times it makes him a great Favour of them selfs .

ANOTHER JEST. M 10 33.

Another time he was sent to the same Ladies land upon the same Errand , and by bowing and stooping too much , and a being iso fat too ; let it seems another whisker : at which the Ladies all fell a laughing , and one of them with laughing so heartily let a rowser too ? Faith Madam , says he , I thank you for pledging her now ; I did not think you could a done someth'g but since you have , I pray if you please ,

please, let it go round, Level Coil; and when  
it comes to my turn, I'll see what I can  
do again. And when he was chid for it,  
said, Who can help that which will away.

bib bus. VENIS 1002 334. 10. 11. 12.

A Fellow that never used to discover the infirmities of his Family, once came to a neighbours House and desired them to give him a piece of their Bread; they askt him why he begg'd Bread, when there was such plenty at home? O, says she, our Bread at home is so hard, that th<sup>e</sup> Teeth of our Saw could not enter it; And swore that his dear Grandmother had been half an hour to moisten this place, to soften it, that so she might bite a piece of it; so that it fetcht out a goodly time Three of her sweet Teeth, which stuck so prettily methought in rank and file in the Bread. And swore that when he was at Sea, the Bisket was so hard, that he was forc'd to carry a Whetstone in his Pocket always to whet his Teeth.

335.

There was an Order of Knights formerly, that was the Order of the Par-  
simonious Knights, which studied fru-  
gallity to the height; and their chief

I 4. Orders

Orders were, Not to lend any thing but their Ear, nor to give, unless it be a box upon the same place ; and clearly did decline *Do, das, dedi* ; and Mr. Recipio was their chief Secretary, and did hate all kind of Physicians, because they were an enemy to the Retentive Faculty ; which they did reverently respect.

336.

Oliver the Protector began to thunder out his distaste against a Minister, who Preache highly against his Usurpation : But notwithstanding this, he stood as one undaunted. What, says Oliver, don't you fear me ? Why, says the Minister, what are you, good or evil ? Why good, says he : Why, says the other, thin who fears any thing that's good : But I fear your goodness lies where no Man can find it out : Why, says Oliver, you shall find it out ; for I will not only release you out of Prison, but give you some Money, and also bestow a good Parsonage on you : Truly, says the Minister, if you do, tis not your goodness but my desert ; and your goodness is only a nest of goods which you have scraped up together.

Mr. Isibell today, and paid a present  
To his wife has long in old custom  
done so. + I

337. Some-

338.

Sometime before this, Oliver had sent for him, and did much revile him and abuse him ; that he put the poor Minister to a stand what to say : At last Oliver putting off his Cap, and the Minister spying his bald Pate : Truly, says he, I will not reproach you, nor revile you, as you have done me ; but I hope you'll give me leave to commend your Hair for leaving so bad a Head.

339.

Another time he sent him a platterful of dirty crusty and clean pickt Bones for his Dinner, and sent him word also that it was good enough for such a Dog as he was : He told him he ought not to compare a lawful Minister to a Dog, but an unlawful one : Why, says he, who are those ? Why, says he, I am the first, and thou art the last : But Sirrah, says he, the Dish I sent was good enough for such a begger as thou art : Well, says the Minister, if it were too good for me, as you say, yet it was not fit for you to send, being a Protector.

340.

A Souldier once quartering in a very cleanly and neat Womans House, who

it seems was a Roman Catholick ; and as she was at her Beads by the Fire-side , by chance dropt some of them into the pot of Porridge ; so that be-thankful for it, we had devout Porridge ( and after that we might be call'd her Beads-Men : ) one call'd 'em Pease in mourning, another call'd 'em *Ethiopian Pease*, another call'd 'em Smooth Coffee-Berries. Sometimes, sweet soul, she would mistake the Fire-Shovel for the Ladle , which went into the Pot without any wiping ; and many times we found Brands-ends, and Sticks , and Coales in the Broth ; which when we told her of , she said 'twas excellent good for the Stone. But that we may not lay all upon this their good, and cleanly Landlady , the Soldier himself did mistake also ; for when she gave him a Glister , it seems he, poor Soul, had not the Retentive faculty, and let it all go in her lovely Face ; which the soeing, said, *Wds-body-kins*, what d'ye do Man ? By my troth I think I must turn my Handkerchief now , or else I can't go abroad too day . So that we see what a happiness it is, when poor Souldiers have marcht hard, to come into so good and cleanly a Landladies House as this was, for their relief and refreshment. 341. In

341.  
In the Rumps time there were a many worthy Men, that were made Justices of the Peace, and among which this one, which it seemes formerly had beene a Tradesman; and when a Man and a Woman was brought before him for some offence: Says the Reverend Justice, Where's your reverence to me, d'ye come in here without bowing? D'ye know who I am? Then Sirrah, says he, what Woman is that you brought with you? says he, Ain't please your Honour, my Wife before God. How you Rogue, says he, d'ye swear? first lay down your 12 d. for swearing, and then go on. Sir, says he, I dare not go on; for if this be swearing, I fear I shall so often swear, that I shall have no Money to defray it; and so I retired with his Wife.

342.

Another Mad Fellow being brought before this Renowned Justice, in the morning before his Worship had drank his mornings draught; and to that end there stood a Silver Beaker of Ale, Nutmeg, and Suger ready; and after his examination, says the Justice to him, Is this true what they say against you?

you? (the Fellow being a t'other side the Table). True Sir, says he; and with that whips into his hand the Silver Beaker afore-said, and said, If it be true, I wish this Beaker may never go through me; and so drank it up: Now Sir, says he, I hope you will not believe them, but me hereafter.

343.

A Man having been abroad at the Market, and when he was come home, found his Landlady a crying; says he, Why do ye cry Landlady? O, says she, I have lost my little Son Tom, and I fear he is kill'd: Come Landlady, says he, pray peace and be contented; for if that be your only grief, pray don't be troubled at it; more I'll give you as good as that I'll warrant you: Well, says she, I thank you for that, now that cares over: But I have lost the finest little Dog too, that if it had been mine own Child I could not have lov'd it better: Says he, I think you love it better than your Child, because you take more care for that than your Child.

344.

Several Toss-pots being got together, they were bragging how many they had made drunk that week, and yet themselves

ſelves sober. Rub, says a drunken Fel-  
low among 'em, though Drink gave me  
the lie left night, and threw me down  
at first, yet I made a ſhift to caſt him at  
laſt.

of no[n]W ymme 345 in a w m M A  
over of b  
*A Gentleman, in King James's days,*  
that was a Servant to him, was a ve-  
ry fat Man, and the King it seems took  
delight in his Company for his dry Jeſts  
now and then; and would often come  
and lean upon his Shoulder: but one  
time it seems lean'd a little harder than  
ordinary, that this fat Gentleman be-  
gan to puff and blow: which the King  
observing, yet would take no notice  
of it: but the Gentleman finding the  
weight a little too heavy, ſaid, I be-  
ſeech your Majeftry not to lean upon the  
Coffion, leſt you burst out the Fætners.

346. being and allēd

*A Gallant that had (as I hear) a mind*  
to marry a Widdow that had a good  
fortune, and had furniſh'd himſelf with  
abundance of fine words to woore her  
withal, and made her believe that he  
never ſwore an Oath, and that his on-  
ly word was, Upon my Soul: and one  
time he ſaid, Madam I'll ſwore my Soul

'tis

*Hause:* But sith knowing before what he was, said, No pray Sir, not your Soul, I must have another pawn for I'm sure that's forfeited already.

347.

A Man was undervaluing Women so much; that he said they ought to have no more knowledge than to distinguish their Husbands Bed from another Mans, and to make good Porridge and Bread: which a Smart young marry'd Woman hearing, rebuked him thus: Nor, says she, understandeth a Woman further knowledge or pleasure, than to be at their Wives command; that is to run of their Arrants, make clean their Shoes, wash their Dishes, sweep their House, and if they please to trouble them so much, as to empty their Stools. Which makes me believe that this Husband is a rascall who her Cook at home holds his peace.

Item is (1601 I es) b. 48. p. 111. in fol. A booke Miserable followeth that as tis said, would not be drunke above seven days in the week; and when he was drunke, was so deluded; that he knew not what he did: Once his Prentice was sent by his wife to fetch him home; and when he found him out, he found him reel-

ing

ing ripe also: and as they came down  
*Loddgate Hill*, in a Moon-shiny night,  
saw the reflection of the *Bell-Savage*  
sign-post upon the ground, and it seems  
took it for a Block, and went to lift  
his Leg over it; his Prentice having him  
by the Arm for his supporter, askt what  
he mad by that doings, says he, to  
go over this Block? He told him twas not  
a Block, What is it then, says he,  
Tis a Sign, says the Boy: What Sign I  
prythee? Why Master, said a Sign you late  
drunkard sin has on me, quicke up this Conduit,  
and I will be gone, says he, and so he did.  
Another night the same Boy was his  
guide home again, or else he had took  
up new Lodgings in the Counter that  
night; and as he was passing by *Fleet-  
Conduit*, which it was staking, where  
the Water did continually run out of a  
Cock from thence: this reverend  
Sot coming to the Conduit, told the  
Boy he drutt piss'd, and did piss against  
the Conduit, close by where the Water  
Cock ran; and after he had stood there  
an pretty while, this Boy told him twas  
late, and pray'd him to come home:  
What you Rogue, says he, would you have  
me bespiss my Brachet, do you hear how I  
piss.

piss still? thinking that the Cock running was his pissing: The Boy told him he had done, 'twas the Cock that ran: Say you so, says he, *in truth I thought I did piss all this awhile*: So he went as well as he could home with the Boy.

*351. Another remarkable Drunkard,*

Another remarkable Drunkard, that always when he went abroad, would have hanging by his side a great short Hanger in a Leather Belt; and one time having been at it till he was red hot with tipling, he and his Companions paid the reckoning, and having laid by his Dagger, when he was going away, instead of his Dagger put the end of his Leather Belt into the ear of a Chamber-pot, half full of Piss, and so fastned it to his side, and so march out into the Street, and every step some Piss would flop out, which set the People in the Street into a laughter, and came flocking about him; and he thinking that they came to abuse him, went to reach his Dagger, but instead of that laid hold of the Chamber-pot and threw all the Piss in the Peoples Faces; and so by that found his error, and then went back for his Dagger again.

*351. An-*

35 I.

Another, that was a very great Glutton, yet forsooth had a great mind to married; that is, to marry a very be rich Widdow: and to that end, by his Letters, got admittance; and when he came, she saw the man was comely enough, and well clad; but seeing him two or three times feed so largely, she askt a friend of hers what he was? He said he was a great Glutton, and when he came to speake to her about the matter, he protested he lov'd her as well as he did his own soul. *By my troth Sir, says the, but I had rather you shoud me as well as you Lov'd your Body.*

Some Gallants were sitting merrily drinking a pot of happy Ale, wherein they had several Discourses of Experiments; but one of them said, that he could demonstrate it so, that though there was foursides of a House that stands alone, yet there's a way to make it rain but a one side: then they desir'd him to tell 'em, he said he would for two pots; Content, say they; then he told 'em, You know though there's four sides of a House, yet there is really but one; that is, the back-side.

side and the inside , so that if you can keep it from raining in , it will rain only on the outside . Probatum est . Well , say they , to make good your conceit , we are resolv'd to seize the two pots which we have lost ; and we will so order the matter , that there's none of that in the pots shall enter into your inside ; we'll so stop 'em .

353. *A Countrywoman that liv'd at Headington near Oxford*, and upon a Sunday , her being not well , obid her maid go to Church that afternoon ; and after Service was done , her Dame askt her what was the Text . She said , Truly forsooth Dame the Text was said before I came . Well , says she , who said he in the middle of the sermon ? Truly , says she , I was unsleep then . Well what did he say at the latter end then ? Indeed forsooth , says she , I went away before I was done . Well , howse soe I will have you tell me something of it . What , says she , and you think I am a blab of my tongue ? No I warrant you , I was better bred than so you did me .

354. *An Company of merry Geiggs* being idyl together , in singing of Catches and other innocent diversion , which

occas-

occasion'd their staying too late; info-  
much that one of 'em askt, *What is't a  
clock?* One said, *'Twas twelve a clock;  
Come let's go then,* says he. *No, no,* says  
another, *what's twelve a clock among all  
us;* *'tis but two apiece:* and I will assure  
you Gentlemen the longer you stay here, you'll  
be the sooner gone. Then, says one of them,  
*I pray what is't a clock when 'tis betwixt  
twelve and one?* He said, *'Twas nothing a  
clock; for it can't be more than twelve, and  
I'm certain it cannot be less than one.* But,  
says one that sat by, though you say it  
can't be more than twelve, yet I have known  
fourteen to the Baker's Dozen.

355.

A precise Woman undertook to cha-  
rge her Daughter, and charged her to  
look no more upon men; but instead of  
that, when you are in their company you  
must still look upon the ground: No, Mo-  
ther, says she, I beg your pardon for that;  
for I see you don't read the Bible often: for  
we ought to look upon men from whence we  
came, and they on the ground from whence  
they came. And if I should not look up-  
on 'em, how should I know whether I like  
them or no? and Mother I have often heard  
when you were a Maid, that you never went

-to Church; but to shew your fine cloaths, and to look upon young men. Well thou hast convinc'd me, prethee child take thy course.

356.

A proper Gentleman, that had been a great Duellist, and about a dozen years before, had one of his Eyes thrust out with a Rapier; but it seems he was unfortunately engaged in another Duel then for his friend, and had the other eye thrust out also: Then he presently put off his Hat, saying to his Friends that were there, God-night to you all; and they bid farewell to him: But how could he farewell, since he was quite blind?

357.

A Man and his Wife having a Son between them, the Father was accounted a very Wise Man, but the Mother and the Son were very simple, insomuch that an Oxonian ingeniously said, That the Sons Pate was stuff so very full of the Mothers Wit, that there was no room left at all for the Fathers Wisdom: Why how can it be expected otherwise, when the Mother had fill'd the Brain before the Father knew him.

358. A

358.

A Gentleman coming to London immediately after the Fire, and coming to Fleet street, there took notice how far the Fire had burnt, which was just to the Hercules Pillars; and no farther: Well, says he, "is very much that the Fire should take notice of this saying of Hercules, viz. *Ne plus ultra.*"

359.

A Man it seems that had to his Wife as good a Woman as any was in England, but for Whoring, Lying, Swearing, Nastiness, and other such small infirmities which made him define a Woman rightly as he thought: Says he, *Women are born in Wiltshire, brought up in Cumberland, lead their lives in Bedfordshire (that is be in Cloth-fair near Smith-field, till twelve a Clock every day) then bring their Husbands to Buckinghamshire, and die in Shrewsbury.*

360.

A humorous Gallant that kept two Boys, and they having committed some fault, he told 'em he'd kill 'em both; but when he saw they were afraid he would do them some mischief, he call'd 'em to him, saying first to one — *Sirrah*

join

you shall live because you are little, and you Sirrah, because you are no bigger; and both because — you are but two: As I live, says one of them, my Master speaks verily well.

360:

A Severe School-master in a Town, did envy much against all vices whatsoever; but especially against that of Whoredom, &c. It was his chance one time to mistake the House he intended, and went into a Bawdy House, which a Fellow seeing, thought to hit him on the Teeth with it; saying, That he saw him come out of a Bawdy House: It may be so, says he, for 'tis better to come out than go in.

362:

A Roaring Gallant that was a Gamester, came to a sober Gentleman, to borrow of him Twenty Shillings, and he swore he'd pay it agen within a Week: And, says he, if you will not take my word I'll give you my Bond. Now I know, says the Gentleman, that his word was as good as his Bond, and therefore lent him Five Shillings, knowing that I should never see him any more; by which means we both were gainers, for he got Five Shillings and I sav'd Fifteen.

362. A

163. A very rich Misers Son riding upon  
the High-way, was met by a Boy that  
was in great distress, and begg'd his char-  
ity: For Sir, says he, I cannot help  
my self, and I am Fatherless before I Ger-  
you gone your Royce, says the good natured  
Gentleman, and I'll jett you; Is that a finall  
Strab? for I would think it a great bappi-  
euse that I were Fatherless: For then grie-  
est for thy Fathers death, and if thou do'st  
think it a great loss to thee, I'll be so chari-  
table to thee, and ffeid thee with good wifess;  
charie, I will hym if Fatherless I can't be  
of others worth, 163629 019 yodr now  
A Gallant had matcht in a bitter cold  
night up and down several Streets to  
get him a Lodging, but nobody would  
open to him, some perhaps more know-  
ing him, and some perchance too well;  
at last he bethought himself of getting a  
Lodging at new kind of way, and so  
went to the Watch at Temple Bar, and  
there call'd s' em all Rogues and forben  
vilenapes, for which they had him to  
the Counter; the next morning he was  
brought before then Alderman of the  
Ward, and he said to him, Methinks you  
look something like a Gentleman, pray what  
was

was your reason to abuse the Constable and his Watch thus without cause? Truly Sir, says he, I will tell you the truth; I had gone from Street to Street that bitter night to get some Lodging, but could find none: at last I thank 'em they brought me to the Counter, where I had a good Fire, good Drink, and a good Bed; for which courtesy I do here give them a Crown: and this I'll assure you Sir was the cause and nothing else; And so he had his release.

X Some Apprentices in London, being intended to see Christmas at a Play, when they were perfect, they came to a grave Citizen and desired him to lend them his Cloths to Act in a Play: No, saith he y<sup>e</sup> bl<sup>e</sup> body shall play the fool in my Cloths: but my selfe am not; and of no good use consideribg 1644. not bus. and of  
y<sup>e</sup> Gallant thought to put a trick upon one (that he thought simple) before a great Company in a Room; but he provid<sup>d</sup> ha<sup>s</sup> subtle Fellowes, and as you'll find baffled him. His question was, that he askt him How old he was? He said even since he was born and twenty Weeks before. Then he askt him how he knew that? Why, says he, that's a question only  
1644. to

be askt of my Mother and the Midwife : for surely I don't well remember it : Then he askt him how old he was since he was Christned ? He told him he could not tell : Why , says the Gallant, that's much methinks , for I am sure you were there your self : Yes , says he, I was there, but I am sure you were not , because you never was at any Christning , nor christned your self : His Father being an Anabaptist.

365.

Two Brothers that were Scholars in one Colledge and Bedfellows , did love the tossing of the pot so much ; that after all their Books were well sold and pawn'd , then went their Cloth's ; so that they had but one Suit, Hatt, Gown, and Shoes and Stockings : so that one went abroad with the Cloth's , and other lay a-bed ; and so they releas'd each other day by day : at last their Father comes to Town , and sends for his two Sons , the one came : He askt where his Brother was ? He told him he was to declaim too morrow , and was providing for it ; then the next day the other Brother came , and his Brother took up his quarters in the Bed : and so they serv'd their

K

Father

Father two or three days; and then he went to their Chamber privately and knockt, and when he was in, he found the other in Bed: At last he found the cause and removed them to another Tutor, who lookt better after them.

366.

A Gentleman that had promis'd a Lawyer Forty Shillings for a Fee, and when the Cause was over he would give him Twenty Shillings: *Why, says he, you were sartish, and sleepy that you lost my Cause.* 'Tis no matter for that, says the Lawyer; I will not be baffled; for I deserve five pounds: for you lost nothing but the Cause, but I lost my Cause and Credit too.

367.

A Fellow was by the Judge condemned to lose his Ears for Perjury, and after he had stood long in the Pillory, the Jailer was coming to cut off both his Ears, and when he went to lay hold on 'em, found nothing but the places where they had been. What a pax, says the Jailer, you Rogue d'ye abuse me; to put me to the trouble and charge to cut off your Ears, and now all is ready you have no Ears you Dog? Well, says he, I'll go to the Judge and

and tell him that thou wert condemned before for Perjury, but now I'll indite thee for Cousenage. Why friend, says the man, the Order runs that I should lose my Ears; but it does not bind me to find you Ears to cut off: I think I have done you a courtesie, seeing I have saved you so much labour.

## 368.

There's a Proverb which says, Two heads are better than one; which made a Boy it seems bid his Father, when he went to buy some Sheep, to take their Dog with him: For, says he, he that you are to deal with is a crafty fellow; and though 'tis said that two heads are better than one, that is, I think he means Cods-heads, when they are both scarce enough for the company; also if both the heads be without wit, 'twere better have none.

## 369.

There's also a Proverb, which says, When the Belly is full, then the Bones should be at rest. But Mr. Proverb I think you are mistaken in this; for all Women that are big-bellied, are the most molested with bones, and they then are least at rest.

370.

Two vapouring Fellows were quarrelling together, and after calling one another very boisterous names, says one to the other, *Sirrab, thou art an arrant Calves-head.* *Hey day,* says he, *pray let me have your opinion, d'ye think I am a Calves-head or not?* They said they could not tell. *Why well then,* says he, *I'll prove that I am none; for you know that every Calves-head has a sweet tooth in it; and I'll assure ye I have never a sweet tooth at all in my head, for all that are left in my head stink; so much for that.*

371.

An ingenious young Man that was set to a Boarding School to learn Latine and to Write, and after he had been there more than two years, his Father sent him a Letter that he should Write to him, that he might see how he had profited both in his Learning and his Writing; and so very Scholaistically directs his Letter to his Father thus, *To my most Obedient Father, which is my Mothers Husband, at the House where they live:* Says a Man to him, *They won't find the House by this direction:* Puh, says he, *no body but knows my Fathers House,*

for

If I were in the Town I could find it my self , and yet I have not been there this two years : And at the end he subscribed thus , I cease ever to be your Dutiful Son : and so forth .

## 372.

Two Oxonians were in a very great dispute there concerning the Man in the Moon , whether a Gentleman or a Citizen ? and after a great deal of Pro's and Con's between them , one of them solv'd it thus , that when the Moon was at full , then there was a Gentleman in her , but when she appeared with two Horns , then he might be confident there was a Citizen in her ; and that they were lunatick that did not believe it : the Spanish Count *de Luna* being at that time come to take a view of Oxford , and to confirm it .

## 373.

An Imperious Gentlewoman , intending to make a great Feast for some of her Friends and Relations , sent one of her servants ( which formerly had been a Servitor in Oxford ) to invite those Persons to the said Feast ; and when he came back , she askt him what he had done ? Madam , says he , I have command-

ed them all to come. Why, you impudent Rascal, says she, I commanded you to bid 'em. Alack-a-day, Madam, says he, I wonder your Ladisip should talk so strangely; having been in the Imperative Mood so long your self, that you should not know, That to bid and command is all one there. Sirrah I bid you go out of my sight. Madam, says he, I am at your command; and is not that all one, when your Lad ship and I so well agree.

## 374.

One passing by the Watch at Aldgate, say the Watchmen, Who's there? Says he, Mine Ar --- then they acquainted the Constable with it, for using such unseemly Language: then says the Worshipful Mr. Constable, How dare you use such a word to them? O Mr. Constable, says he, are you there? Though I us'd it to them, I do confess I dare not ta you; for in truth Sir, how I have left mine Ar --- behind me. Well, says the Constable, the next time you do so, I shall make you leave your Sivord behind; and instead of casting up your sums with a pen, I shall make you do it in Counters.

## 375. A.

375.

A Frenchman, as I hear, coming late by Ludgate one night; says one of the Watch to him, Stand and come before the Constable. Begar, says he, that is very pretty; I cannot stand and come before the Constable too. Stand, I say, says another, and come before the Constable. At which the Frenchman laugh'd heartily, saying, Begar dat's mon be all ingenious, stand and come before d' Constable; at last the Constable appears, Sir, says he, whither are you going? Begar dat's very pretty too. Mr. Constable I love you very much, great deal well, cause you be so like my Wife; f'r when I go out a door, she says, Husband whither are you going? just like you Mr. Constable. Sir, says he, Whither are you going now? Begar Mr. Constable me be going dere where you dare not go. Where's dat? says the Constable. Why begar, says he, go bed to my own Wife. Mark you dat Mr. Constable; and still laugh on, that the Constable to be rid, as he thought, of such impertinency, let him go.

*Two Fellows were eating of a large Dish of Porridge together, and being ver  
ry hot, they would be a blowing of it; says A. 875.*

other; If you blow any more, I'll take you a blow o'the chops. With that the other turn'd about to the Dish, and let a rousing Fa --- What a pox, says he, if you blow your porridge at that manner, you shall lap by your self. Hold your tongue, says he, or else I shall lap your sides.

## 377.

A man that had formerly been in a very good condition, but of late was grown very poor by Luxury and Roguery, and one day he was standing at his door, a Poster comes to him in roguery to jeer him ; saying, Sir you can't give me three groats for a shilling. What if I can't you Rogue, says he ; and being vex'd at the Fellow's abuse, took him such a kick on the Breech that threw him as far as the kennel ; and when he was down, Now Sirrah, says he, give me your Shilling or look to your self. So the man gave him the Shilling, and he gave him three Groats in exchange, which were three lusty kicks on the Breech with his pair of Winter Shoes on, and then bid him take heed how he did exchange money with Gentlemen any more.

EDWARD BROWN  
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378.

A Widdow in Oxford having been long in possession of an Inne called the Maidenhead there, and as she thought lawfully; but another laying claim to it, they both went to Law, and her adversary overthrew her; for which she extremely griev'd: then an aucient acquaintance of hers askt her why she griev'd so much: She told him she had lost her Maidenhead. *Why, says he, were you never married?* Yes, says she, married to him that brought me this Maidenhead; but I could not keep it: so that now I find there's a Law against keeping of Maidenheads; for I lost it by Law. Law you now, says he; but I pray let me ask you a question, Did the loss of this Maidenhead trouble you so much as that before? O, says she, I had rather have lost that twenty times over, than this once: for that Maidenhead I can stow in the house; but the other Maidenhead is gone with the boſſe; and never to be retriev'd agen.

379.

There was a Fellow that call'd himself a Musician, and plaid so very ill, that all that heard him, would commonly leave the Room; in so much that a Gentleman

## Cant-House Jeffs.

tleman call'd him a Cock: for when he began to crow, then all the people in the Room began to rise; and was thought a dangerous Fellow in a State, having been the cause of so many Risings. By my troth, fays a discreet Woman, I'll venture that, for if he be guilty of rising, I'll have him play at my Son's Chamber-door, and that will make him rise to go to School earlier than he does.

380.

We read that St. Cuthbert of Durham did abundance of Miracles in his life-time, and after his death, as 'tis reported, many more; among which, this was one, That one Aldwinus was chosen Bishop of Durham by a Voice out of St. Cuthbert's Tomb (or by a Monk his good friend, who lay hid under it) which made another that stood by, who was a very worthy man, and indeed who expected the place also; say, That he never read that St. Cuthbert ever drank in his Porridge (as the English Proverb says) that he should speak after he was dead; so that you see (wha soever Fanaticks pretend) that Miracles are not ceased.

381.

Harry Martin the great Rumper, for  
you

you know all Martins are Birds ; and he being so, flew so high before ; but after the Kings most happy Restauration, was brought so low as to knock at the Bar of the Lords House ; though 'tis thought he never came into the Lords House before , unless it were to see a handsome Girle there : But at the Lords Bar he was aske what he could say, that Judgement should not pass upon him ? O My Lords , says he , I understood that the Kings Proclamation extended to favour of life , upon rendering myself ; which I then did ; and withal , my Lords , I do let you to know , and I do ingenuously confess it , that I never obey'd any of His Majesties Proclamations before ; but this : and I hope I shall not be hang'd for taking the Kings word now .

382. In the 17th of June 1660 .  
An Gentleman had a young Gentlewoman by the hand, intending with her to dance a Country Dance ; she being a conceited Girle , proud and humerous, she askt him what Dance he would call for ? He told her the Punks Delight : Say you so , says she , d'ye delight in Punks indeed : What could you call for nothing else when I was with ye : but that ; you are

*an uncivil Fellow*: Faith Lady, says he, I had not thought of it but when I had you by the hand, that put me in mind of a Punk; and to let you see I don't delight in them, that makes me so willing to part with you; and so turn'd her going.

383.

King James being in his Progress at Woodstock in Oxfordshire, the King finding it to rain so one morning that he could not ride a Hunting; had got some of the Nobility and Gentry together, resolving to be merry: And one humour was, that the King having that morning a fine curveting Horse given him, which kind of Horse he never lik'd in his life; told them that he that could tell the greatest lie should have that Horse: So one told one lie, and another another; and several had told others, that there was great laughing; and just in the midst of this mirth in comes a Country Fellow complaining to the King that some of his Servants had wrong'd him: Well, well, says the King, we'll hear you of that anon: Come, come hither among'st us, and you must know that he that can tell the greatest lie shall have that Horse: Truly, Sir, says he, an't please your Grace

'I never told a lie in all my life.' With that, says the King, Give him the Horse, give him the Horse; for I am sure that is the greatest lie that has been told to day.

384.

Some Oxford Scholars when they did intend to perform that Journey called *Aster Boreale*; went first to Worcestershire, then through Shropshire, Cheshire, Lancashire, Westmoreland and Cumberland, and so to Dumfrees, and then to Glasgow; and having seen the Western parts of Scotland, came then toward the East, viz. To St. Johnstons, Dundee, St. Andrews, Edinburgh, Dunbar and Berwick; and so came into England Eastwards: from thence to New-castle, Durham, York, Hull, and over the arm of the Sea at Hull, which is six miles broad there; into Lincolnshire, and so to Norfolk; and being in the City of Norwich at an Inne, and their Money after so long a journey running low; it seems in the morning the Landlord brought 'em up a sawcy Reckoning, which they perusing shakt their heads, and well they might, for they could not shake their Purses then: Then says the Landlord to them, Gentlemen I see you're Scholars, and if you can

can but tell me how I may be eased of a great trouble which lies upon me, I will give you a Gallon of Sack: They askt him what it was? He told 'em, he was so infinitely troubled with Ratts, that they destroyed most of the Goods in his House. Well, says the Scholar, bring up your Gallon of Wine, and we'll give you a remedy for your trouble of the Ratts; which if you follow, we'll warrant you they'll never trouble you more; and that is this, The first thing you must do, is to prepare a great Supper, and then invite all the Ratts you have to the house to that Supper, and in the morning daire bring them up such a Bill as you have brought to us, and if they trouble your House more I'll be hang'd. Well Gentlemen, says he, I see you want Money solid will, if you please to accept of it, lend you Five Pound, and excuse you the paying of your Bills till three months after your arrival into Oxford; and before that time I'll send my Son to receive that, and the Five Pound, and do intend he shall stay at what Colledge you please; but I must have one of you to be his Tutor. And about six weeks after the Son came, and was admitted of Christ-Church Colledge, of which Colledge those Iter-borealeans were:

were: of which kindnes for the Money lent, and excusing the Bill, these Scholars made an excellent Copy of Verses, and sent it to their Landlord in *Nerwiche*, and Forty Shillings to drink their Healths; which was done so to the purpose, that they were all fain to be led to Bed that night.

385.

A Gentleman meeting with one of the Fallow Deer which had stray'd out of *Whetstone's Park*, and so must needs be Fallow, because she followed him to a House where there were several others in a large Room dancing Country Dances; and after some Dances, it was his turn to lead up a Dance; she askt him what Dance he would call? He said, *Feeble Robin*, which is an old Country Dance: No, says she, *I hate that*: Then he told her he would call *Mall Stanhope's Delight*. Yes, says she, *I like that*: Well, says she, name some more though: Why, says he, then what say you To go to Bed in the dark? Yes, says she, *that's well enough too*. Then, says he, what say you to Under and Over. Yes, says she, *that I think's best*: But first we'll begin with *Mall Stanhope's Delight*, and then Go to Bed in the

can but tell me how I may be eased of a great trouble which lies upon me, I will give you a Gallon of Sack: They askt him what it was? He told 'em, he was so infinitely troubled with Ratts, that they destroyed most of the Goods in his House. Well, says the Scholart, bring up your Gallon of Wine, and we'll give you a remedy for your trouble of the Ratts; which if you follow, we'll warrant you they'll never trouble you more, and that is this, The first thing you must do, is to prepare a great Supper, and then invite all the Ratts you have in the house to that Supper, and in the morning daire bring them up such a Bill as you have brought to us, and if they trouble your House more I'll be hang'd. Well Gentlemen, says he, I see you want money so ill will, if you please to accept of it, lend you Five Pounds, and excuse you the paying of your Bills, till three months after your arrival into Oxford; and before that time I'll send my Son to receive that and the Five Pound, and do intend he shall stay as what Colledge you please; but I must have one of you to be his Tutor. And about six weeks after the Son came, and was admitted of Christ-Church Colledge, of which Colledge those Ex-bordeleans were:

were: of which kindness for the Money lent, and excusing the Bill, these Scholars made an excellent Copy of Verses, and sent it to their Landlord in *Norwich*, and Forty Shillings to drink their Healths; which was done so to the purpose, that they were all fain to be led to Bed that night.

385.

A Gentleman meeting with one of the Fallow Deer which had stray'd out of *Wherston's Park*, and so must needs be Fallow, because she followed him to a House where there were several others in a large Room dancing Country Dances; and after some Dances, it was his turn to lead up a Dance; she askt him what Dance he would call? He said, *Feeble Robin*, which is an old Country Dance: No, says she, *I hate that*: Then he told her he would call *Mall Stanhope's Delight*. Yes, says she, *I like that*: Well, says she, name some more though: Why, says he, then what say you To go to Bed in the dark? Yes, says she, that's well enough too. Then, says he, what say you to Under and Over. Yes, says she, that I think's best: But first we'll begin with *Mall Stanhope's Delight*, and then Go to Bed in the

the dark, and at last Under and Over ; and so danc'd them (as the neighbours in our Alley say) one after another.

386.

An Ingenious Cavalier in Oliver's days, that was a Person of Quality, was then by the Protectors Order put into the Tower ; and after he had been there a pretty while , says the Lieutenant of the Tower to him , *Sir I hope you like your Chear well , for I endeavour to provide the best for you I'll assure you : Yes truly Mr. Lieutenant*, says the Prisoner, *I do not mislike my fare ; but whensoever you see that I do mislike it , then thrust me one a-doors , and I shall be so far from taking it ill from you , that I will think you have done me a favour in it.*

387.

A Great Mans Bastard, being in company with other Gentlemen in a Coffee-house together , where their discourse was chiefly about Cuckolds , and what subtle tricks Women had to make their Husbands so : But he told them that for his part he was sure that his Father was no Cuckold, because he was never married ; and so by consequence proclaim'd himself a Bastard.

old

388.A

388.

A Man that had been a Four years Voyage at Sea, and when he came home, his dear and vertuous Wife coming to meet and welcome him home, brought a little Boy in her Arms of a Twelve month old; which he perceiving, Ump<sup>h</sup>, says he : *And umph*, says she, *agen*, you might have come home sooner then : Why , says he , I came home as soon as my conveniency would give me leave: And I , says she , staid as long as my conveniency would give me leave : Well, says he, whose Child is this? Why mine , says she , and that that is mine is yours , for I can lawfully call nothing my own but my Ring, Fillet and Hair-bace , and therefore the Child is yours : How will you prove it, says he ? Why thus , says she , here hold it in your Arms ; and as he took it , Now , says she , I freely give it you : Nay now , says he , I am satisfied, and know tis mine ; therefore prithee get it a good Nurse : for I'll have none of my Children that comes so easily to be nurst at home.

389.

Another Man had been at Sea also Four or Five years , and his dear Spouse brought to shew him a very fine Child which

which God had sent him in his absence :  
 Well sweet Wife I'll keep this for Gods sake,  
 but if he sends any more in this manner he  
 is like to keep 'em himself : By this, my  
 dear Husband, says she, you see that I  
 don't lie idle in your absence.

390.

A Dear and Loving Wife, that always  
 bore a great respect to her Husband, both in Sicknes and in Health , and  
 now did make it appear to the very last ;  
 for when her dear Husband was in Essex condemn'd to die , for a small matter,  
 God knows; that is only for stealing  
 four or five Horses , and breaking up  
 as many Houses : So this sweet loving  
 Soul his Wife , hearing where he was,  
 came and gave him a visit. Wife, says  
 he , you see what I am come to now , pri-  
 thee pray for me , and have a care to bring  
 up our Children in the fear of God. Hus-  
 band , says she ; as soon as I heard of it,  
 you see I came to you , and as you know I have  
 always been loving to you ; you shall now  
 find it at the last . Pray Husband tell me ,  
 are we to be at the charge of a Rop or  
 ship ; so for it would be all things ready  
 that night bda you a kindnes ; if for here I  
 will bring her over forty Miles as do you a  
 day.

COUR-

courtesie. And so left the Rope with him. Will Wife, says he, I thank you heartily ; and pray go home and look after the Children : No Husband, says she, I have not come so far, but a Grace a God I'll see you hang'd before I go.

391.

A Young Lady was chosen by the King of Persia to be his Wife, so she was desired that the chief of the Princes and the Nobility might see her unstrip'd, least she might partake of her Fathers crookedness : Yes, says she, *without my heart* : So she put off all to her fine Holland Smock : Nay, says she, Smock and all to get a Crown : Faith Madam, says he, I wou'd not for an Angel but I had seen it.

392.

A Fanatick Doctor in the time of the Rump Parliament, that formerly had written a Book, *That Sunday was no Sabbath* ; and he meeting with another in the Fields that knew the Doctor, but the Doctor not him : So the Doctor and he being alone, took him to be an illiterate fellow, and there began to catechize him, and askt him a many questions; and one among the rest was, *How many*

many Commandments there were? He sturdied a little while, at last he told him there was Eight Commandments: Yes, says the Doctor, I thought how well you were Princled: Well, says he, which are the Eight? So he named all but the Second and the Fourth: Then he askt him his reason for leaving the other two out: He told him he left none out of himself, but the Papists had left out the Second; and there's a Doctor, I know not what the Pox you call his name has left out the other (and we are to believe all Wise Men) who says, *The Sunday is no Sabbath:* and so whipt away from him. The Doctor then call'd him agen: No, says he, *you that will steal away one of our Commandments, may rob me for ought I know.*

## 393.

A very great Student, that had written many excellent Books, and one among the rest was, he had wrote a History of the whole World: This said Student it seems had lost himself in a Wood, because he took little notice of the Path; being still in a musing condition: At last being weary, and his Stomach crying Cupboard also, began very

very seriously to endeavour to get out of the Wood; and after he had wandred about a great while, he met by chance with a Country Man that liv'd near Oxford, and was then going thither to Market ( which Country Man knew him very well ) then he desired him to guid him out of the Wood, and he'd give him Six pence. Sir, says he, I do admire very much, that you that have writ a Tract of the whole World, should not now find the Track out of this little Wood? Friend, says he, I think thou art Wood: Sir, says he, if I am mad, I am not fit to be your guid; but you speak as if you were in a Wood: Yes faith, says the Student, so I am; and I would fain get out on't if I could.

## 394.

Another Simple Rumpish Minister, as he was riding one Afternoon to a Parsonage which he had eight Miles from Oxford, which he used to do every Saturday ( that is if it be fair ) to Preach there on Sunday; but if otherwise, then one of the Junior Fellows in the Colledge where he was Head, was sent in his room. This said Minister, seeing a Boy at Plough in the Fields with Oxen  
( which

( which it seems was a smart knave ) rid up with his Man to him , and there began to catechize the Boy notably ; and after the Boy had answered him hand-pat to all his questions ( which the Parson admired ) Now Sir , says the Boy , I hope you'll give me leave to ask you a Question : Yes , Boy , says he , withal my heart . Pray Sir , says he , then tell me who made these Oxen ? Why God , says the Parson : Nay that's a lie , says the Boy , for God made 'em Bulls , but my Father made 'em Oxen : And so drove away the Plough and whistled on still , that though the Parson askthim many other questions , yet he took no notice of him , nor did not afford him another word : Then he and his Man rode away from him . This Story his Man told when he came home , for which his good Master turn'd him out a-doors ; so kind they were still to all that told truth .

395.

A Plain Country Fellow , coming to the Market at Brainford on Tuesday , there cheapned of a Butcher a Shoulder of Mutton ; the Butcher told him he would have Twenty pence for it : Fie , says he , twenty pence , I'll tell you not long since ,

Since, you goodman Brown, there's a Man  
in this Town, that is call'd John Bennet,  
who withih this Sennet, sold me a Shoulder  
of Mutton, witness your neighbour  
John Sutton, for no more than fourteen  
pence; or I wish I may ne'r go hence: Well,  
says the Butcher, strait Take it so, for  
this conceit: Probatum est.

396.

A Gentleman coming to another Gentleman's House to speak with him, and he being from home, his Wife which was a conceited and finical Woman, especially in keeping her House very neat, brought him into the Parlour there, and the Gentleman thinking nothing, by chance spit in the Room; then she knockt presently for the Maid, first to bring in a Mopp, and afterwards a Rubber, to rub it quite out. A little after (I knew not by what accident) but as she was making a curchy to him, she began to trump about behind, which the Gentleman observing well, and thinking it to be one in srrup; immediately call'd for the Maid, first to bring the Mopp, and then the Rubber to clean her Miſtriss, and so went out a doors without taking any leave at all; for he ſinelt she was angry.

397. A

398.

A Knight in this Kingdom, that had formerly been hit on the Shins with a French Faggot stick, by which means his Nose had took leave of his Face ; and when he was passing by a Fishmongers Shop in the City , the Boy having then been throwing Water on the Fish , by chance some of it lighted on the Knights fine Cloths , which did besparkle it very much; that he call'd him Rogue in his snuffing Language , and sent for his Master down to tell him of it . Sirrah, says his Master , what's the reason you did this to the Gentleman? Sir, says he , how can you blame me for it , when I saw him blow his Nose upon the Fish.

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**F I N I S.**

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68, 74, 162, 111, 127.

Primer 68

Latinized 74

72 Stipendium with  
157 W. for child